REGISTERED No. 1—1876.

The Bombay Gazette.

No. 8.652.—New Series. BOMBAY:—TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1876.

THE BOMBAY GAZETTE.

The Rates of Subscription to the *Bombay Gazette* will for the future be as follows:—

To Subscribers in Bombay—*Delivered free.*

In Advance.		*In Arrear.*	
Per Annum	Rs. 48	Per Annum	Rs. 60
Half-yearly	25	Half yearly	31
Quarterly	13	Quarterly	16
Monthly	5	Monthly	6

To Subscribers Up-country.

In Advance.		*In Arrear.*	
Per Annum	Rs. 52	Per Annum	Rs. 65
Half-yearly	29	Half-yearly	36
Quarterly	16	Quarterly	20
Monthly	6	Monthly	7

Those Up-country Rates include Postage Rates.

Single Copy..... As. 4.

Price for back numbers [varies according to time between As. 8 and Rs. 2.

TERMS FOR ADVERTISEMENTS.

Ten Lines and under—

First insertion	Rs.	5	0
Second do.		2	8
Third do.		2	8
Fourth and succeeding insertions		0	2½ As.

a line, but no Advertisement counted as less than eight lines.

LONG ADVERTISEMENTS.

First insertion ..... 8 As. per Line.
Second do. ..... 4½ „ „
Third and succeeding ..... 2½ „ „
In the Native Languages, double the above.

For Advertisements which are to be inserted for a considerable time special contracts may be made.

SPECIAL SHORT ADVERTISEMENTS.

Advertisements of two or three lines relating to such matters as Small Sales, Business Cards, Situations, Wanted or Servants Required, Houses or Lodgings to Let, Changes of Residence, Articles Lost or Found.

The scale for Advertisements belonging to any of these classes will be as follows:—

Not exceeding three lines ..... Rs. 1-0
Each succeeding line..... „ 0-8 As.

Advertisement exceeding five lines will be charged for at our present ordinary rates.

No Advertisement will be inserted for less than *One Rupee*, and payment must in all cases be made in *Cash*.

All Advertisements are charged according to the space occupied in Nonpareil, or smallest type, 12 lines of which go to the inch.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES: EACH—TWO RUPEES.

All Cheques, Money Orders, and other Remittances should be made payable to the "Proprietor of the *Bombay Gazette*."

SHIPPING.

WEEKLY STEAM COMMUNICATION WITH THE MALABAR COAST, CEYLON, MADRAS, AND CALCUTTA.

THE BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY (Limited), under contract with Government, will despatch the s.s. MAHRATTA, 742 Tons, 130 H. P., Commander J. James on SATURDAY, the 4th November 1876, at 4 P.M., calling at Rutnagherry, Vingoria, Goa, Carwar, Mangalore, Cannanore Tellicherry, Calicut, Beypore, Cochin, Alleppey, Tuticorin, Colombo, Galle, Negapatam, Madras, Coconada, Vizagapatam, Bimlipatam, Callingapatam, Goyalore, False Point, and at any other place where inducement offers.

Cargo for Singapore and China can be booked fortnightly by the steamers on this line, hence or from intermediate ports for transhipment at Galle to the Steamers of the Compagnie des Messageries Maritimes de la France which run regularly.

N.B.—No Cargo will be received on the day of sailing.

W. NICOL & Co., Agents.

WEEKLY STEAM COMMUNICATION WITH THE PERSIAN GULF, VIA KURRACHEE.

Interchanging Cargo and Passengers at Bussorah, to and from Bagdad, with the Euphrates and Tigris Steam Navigation Company, or other Steamers.

THE BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY (Limited), under Mail Contract with Government, will despatch the s.s. CALCUTTA, 863 Tons, 130 H. P., Commander T. P. Nailer, on FRIDAY, the 3rd November 1876, at 4 P.M., for the PERSIAN GULF, touching at KURRACHEE, MUSCAT, BUNDERABBAS, LINGA, BUSHIRE, FAO, BUSREH, and occasionally at BAHREIN and MAHOMERAH.

N.B.—No Cargo will be received on the day of sailing.

W. NICOL & Co., Agents.

BI-WEEKLY STEAM COMMUNICATION WITH KURRACHEE.

THE BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY (Limited), under Mail Contract with Government, will, during the Season, despatch a Steamer to Kurrachee every FRIDAY, at 4 P.M., and an Extra Steamer on every MONDAY, at 2 P.M.

The s.s. CALCUTTA, 863 Tons, 130 H. P., Commander T. P. Nailer, will be despatched on FRIDAY, the 3rd November 1876, at 4 P.M.

The s.s. VINGORLA, 577 Tons, 130 H.P., Commander N. R. Sayers, will be despatched on MONDAY, the 6th November 1876, at 2 P.M., calling at Veravul, Pore Bunder, and Cutch Mandvie.

N.B.—No Cargo will be received on the day of sailing.

W. NICOL & Co., Agents.

STEAM COMMUNICATION WITH ITALY VIA SUEZ CANAL.

ITALIAN STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY of Messrs. R. RUBATTINO & Co., GENOA.

THE REGULAR STEAMERS LEAVE GENOA and BOMBAY on the 1st *of each month.*

PASSENGERS' RATES.

(Inclusive of all Transit Fees through the Suez Canal.)

	1st Class.		2nd Class.		3rd Class.	
Aden	£22	....	£15	....	£4	Without Food.
Suez	36	....	22	....	8	
Port Said	38	....	24	....	9	
Messina	50	....	34	....	14	
Naples	50	....	34	....	14	
Leghorn	50	....	34	....	14	
Genoa	50	....	34	....	14	
Marseilles	52	....	35	....	14-10	

Including Food.

Children under 3 years—free of charge. Children not above 10 years—half fare.

NEXT STEAMERS FROM BOMBAY:—

BATAVIA to sail on WEDNESDAY, 1st November 1876.
AUSTRALIA to sail on FRIDAY, 1st December 1876.
SUMATRA to sail on MONDAY, 1st January 1877.
ASSIRIA to sail on MONDAY, 15th January 1877.
RAT-VIA to sail on THURSDAY, 1st February 1877.

All Steamers of this Company have large First and Second Class accommodation; and always carry a Doctor and a Stewardess on board.

The exact hour of departure will be fixed and published a day or two previous to sailing.

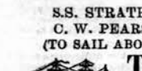
For hand-books of information, rates of freight, &c., apply to

C. GRONDONA,
Agent Rubattino Steam Navigation Company,
No. 9, Hummum Street.

Bombay, 19th October 1876

LIVERPOOL *VIA* SUEZ CANAL.

S.S. STRATHLEVEN, 2,300 Tons.
C. W. PEARSON, COMMANDER.
(TO SAIL ABOUT 27TH NOVEMBER.)



THIS New and Splendid Steamer will have despatch as above, and is expected to make a quick passage. She has been built expressly for the Indian trade, and has excellent accommodation for Passengers, both on the main deck and in a Saloon built on deck.

FARE TO LIVERPOOL.—Rs. 500.

Exclusive of Wines, &c., which can be procured on board at moderate prices. For passage and fur her particulars apply to

GRINDLAY, GROOM & Co.
W. NICOL & Co, Agents.

Bombay, 26th October 1876.

AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN LLOYD'S STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

REGULAR LINE OF STEAMERS BETWEEN BOMBAY AND TRIESTE, VIA SUEZ CANAL.

THE Company's Steamer JUNO, 3,124 Tons, and 400 H.P., will be despatched from BOMBAY to TRIESTE on the 10th November.

Rates of Passage-money (exclusive of Wines and Spirits which can be had on board at moderate prices) as under:—

	1st Class.	2nd Class.	Deck.
To Trieste	£45 0	£35 0	£18 0
To Port Said	£32 0	£25 10	£13 2
To Suez	£30 0	£24 0	£12 5
To Aden	£17 0	£13 0	£6 12

No cargo will be received on board after sunset on the day previous to sailing.

The Company intend to despatch Steamers from Bombay to Trieste on the following dates:—

A Steamer on the 30th November 1876.
Do. do. 21st December 1876.

For further particulars, and for Freight and Passage, apply to the Agency of the Austro-Hungarian Lloyd's Steam Navigation Company.

JOSEPH JANNI, Agent.

28, Bombay Green, 9th October 1876.

S. D'ESPERANCE,
COPPER-PLATE ENGRAVER & PRINTER.

BRASS STAMPS, OFFICIAL SEALS,
STEEL DIES WITH CRESTS,
ARMORIAL BEARINGS, ONOGRAMS, &c., &c.,
ENGRAVED and EMBOSSED in COLOURS, Neatly and with Despatch.

Bombay:—35, MEADOW STREET, FORT.

For Sale at this Office.

THE NEW INDIAN CUSTOMS' ACT AND TARIFF,
In neat Pamphlet form, 8vo. Demy, 25 pp.

Price—Four Annas

SHIPPING.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL COMPANY.

THE following or other first-class Vessels will be despatched for EUROPE:—

Vessels.	Tons.	B.P.	Captains.	Nov. 1876.
DECCAN	3429	550	J. D. Gaby	6th—Southampton.
SURAT	3141	510	G. C. Byrne ..	13th—Suez, &c.
PERIM	3777	600	W. Woolcott..	20th—Southampton.
SUMATRA....	2485	450	C. Anderson ..	27th—Suez, &c.
				Dec.
NEPAUL	3536	600	R. Methven...	4th—Southampton.
CATHAY	2982	450	R. T. Dundas..	11th—Suez, &c.
MIRZAPORE.	3703	600	A. Parish.....	18th—Southampton.

Passengers are booked to Malta, Gibraltar, and Southampton by every Mail. The Southampton Steamers proceed to that port direct; but by the alternate Steamers Passengers change vessels at Suez.

Passengers to Brindisi, Ancona, and Venice are carried by every Steamer, but proceed by rail from Suez to Alexandria.

Heavy Baggage must be sent to Mazagon on the day of the Steamer's departure, before 10 A.M., in order that it may be weighed and labelled previous to shipment.

A small Steamer will leave the New Dock Head at Mazagon, at 3 P.M. precisely, on the day of sailing.

GEORGE F. HENRY, Superintendent.

Bombay, 28th Oct. 1876.

STEAM TO CEYLON, PENANG, STRAITS, CHINA, AND JAPAN.

On TUESDAY, the 31st Oct. 1876, at 3 P.M., from Mazagon.

THE P. and O. Co.'s S.S. MALWA, (2933 Tons and 450 H.P.), Captain F. S. Tomlin, will be despatched as above, carrying H. M.'s Mails, and taking also Passengers and Cargo for Madras and Calcutta.

No Cargo will be received on board after sunset on the day previous to sailing, and no brokerage will be allowed on any cheat of opium, the officer's receipt for which is not lodged in the Company's Office before noon, on SATURDAY, the 28th October 1876.

GEORGE F. HENRY.
Bombay, 21st Oct. 1876. Superintendent.

ANCHOR LINE—INDIAN SERVICE.

BOMBAY TO LIVERPOOL, VIA SUEZ CANAL.

THE following or other First Class Steamers of the ANCHOR LINE will sail from GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL to PORT SAID, SUEZ, and BOMBAY, and from BOMBAY to SUEZ, PORT SAID, GIBRALTAR, and LIVERPOOL:—

Vessels.	Commanders.	Tons.	H.P.	From Liverpool.	From Bombay.
MACEDONIA	Jas. Laird.....	2272	486	.....	18th Nov.
TRINACRIA	Robt. Hutchison	2167	424	28th Oct.	13th Dec.
					1877.
EUROPA	Jas. Harris	2277	424	18th Nov.	3rd Jan.

And regularly thereafter, further sailings being arranged according to the requirements of the trade.

All the Steamers of this Line carry a SURGEON and a STEWARDESS, and have superior First-class accommodation, fitted with every convenience.

Passengers and Cargo booked through to New York in connection with the Anchor Line Trans-Atlantic Service.

FARES FROM BOMBAY TO LIVERPOOL.

First Class ..... Rs. 500

A reduction of 15 per cent. will be given on Return Passages to all who re-embark by Anchor Line Steamers within twelve months of time of landing.

For Passage, Freight, &c., apply to

W. & A. GRAHAM & Co., Agents.

N.B.—If sufficient inducement offers the Steamers of this Line will make Naples a regular port of call.

HALL LINE OF STEAMERS.

BOMBAY TO LIVERPOOL.
(VIA SUEZ CANAL.)

The following fine powerful Steamers will sail from Bombay as under:—

	From Bombay.
BRANKSOME HALL	29th November.
CHILDWALL HALL	27th December.
CITY OF BALTIMORE	10th January.

THESE Steamers have been especially built for the Bombay Trade, and have already become known for their speed. The Saloon and Cabins are handsomely got up, and a Surgeon and Stewardess are carried by all the Steamers of the Line.

FARES FROM BOMBAY.

	First Class.
TO LIVERPOOL	Rs. 500

For Rates of Passage Money and for any further particulars apply to

N.B.—These steamers unvariably sail punctually.

W. & A. GRAHAM & Co., Agents.

Bombay, 30th September 1876.

SALES BY AUCTION.

CRAWFORD AND COMPANY,
2, MARINE STREET, BOMBAY.

SALE OF SHARES IN THE ALBERT MILLS COMPANY, LIMITED.

THIS DAY, TUESDAY the 31st instant, at 2 P.M., Messrs CRAWFORD & Co. will sell by Public Auction at the Share Bazar, by order of the mortgagee and on account and at the risk of the mortgagor Allarukia Sewjee.

2 Shares in the Albert Mills Company, Limited, numbered 51 and 59.

SALE OF SUPERIOR 2ND CLASS MOULMEIN TEAK SQUARES.

TO-MORROW WEDNESDAY, the 1st November at 3 p.m. Messrs CRAWFORD and Co. will sell by Public Auction at the Kussara Bunder.

About 100 tons 2nd class Moulmein Teak Squares to close shipment per Norwood.

About 200 tons 2nd Class Moulmein Teak Squares ex Glenlyon, in small convenient lots to suit the requirments of purchasers.

SALE OF SUPERIOR 1ST AND 2ND CLASS MOULMEIN TEAK SQUARES, SCANTLINGS AND BATTENS.

On THURSDAY, the 2nd Nov. at 3 P.M., Messrs CRAWFORD and Co. will sell by Public Auction at Tank Bunder.

200 Superior 1st and 2nd class Moulmein Teak Squares and about 80 tons Teak Scantlings of various sizes and Battens in small convenient lots to suit the requirements of purchasers,

CRAWFORD & Co.

Bombay, 31st October, 1876.

SADANUND SHRICRISTNAJEE AND CO.

SALE OF LANDED PROPERTY AT NOWROJEE HILL.

TO-MORROW, WEDNESDAY, the 1st proximo, Messrs. S. SHRICRISTNAJEE & Co. are instructed to sell by Public Auction on the premises at 5 P.M., by order of mortgagee Fucker Shaheb Bib Balloo Meya Patell and on account and at the risk of the mortgagor Bhundaree Wilhoba Damajee Sirdhunker and Rookmabaee, widow of the Damajee Bapoo Sildhunker.

All that piece or parcel of Fazundaree ground belonging to Mr. M neckjee Nowrojee, with dwelling house, situate at west side of Nowrojee Hill First Row in the subdistrict of Mandvee, and registered in the Books of the Collector of assessment under No. 92, containing 30 feet in breadth and 40 feet in length and bounded as follows:—On the east by a vacant ground of the said Fazundar, on the west by the said Nowrojee Hill First Row, on the north by the house of Crustnajee Essoo Parkur, on the south by the premises belonging to Pandoo Suckoojee Bhoslay.

S. SHRICRISTNAJEE & Co.

Bombay, 31st October 1876.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

NOTICE.

COMPETITION DESIGNS are invited for a building to be called ALBERT HALL, to be erected in the Ramnewas Gardens at Jaipur.

The site available is 450 ft., frontage by 170 ft.

The North, East and West sides of the site are open to the Garden; the South side is bounded by the Garden wall.

The following accommodation is required:—

1.—Large Hall which can be used as an Assembly Room for Public Meetings, Theatricals, Balls, Public Dinners, &c., with Ante-Room, Lavatory and Retiring Rooms attached.
2.—Library and Reading Room.
3.—Museum.
4.—Hall or Gallery for Pictures, Sculptures, &c.
5.—Billiard Room.
6.—Office.

The Building should stand on a raised Terrace about 10 ft. above the present ground level.

The style of Architecture, dimensions of Rooms and general details are left to the discretion of the Designer.

The estimate should NOT EXCEED THREE LACS.

Designs with detailed Estimates should be sent to H. H. the Maharajah of Jaipur, and will be received up to the 28th February 1877. Each Design should bear some Motto or Device and a Sealed Envelope should accompany it, bearing outside a similar Motto or Device and inside the name and address of the competitor.

The Designs submitted are to be considered the property of H. H. the Maharajah.

The competitor whose Design is considered the best by H. H. the Maharajah will be entitled to a Reward of Rs. 1,000: Rs. 500 will be paid to the competitor whose Design is considered the second best. Any further information desired by intending competitors will be furnished on application to the Executive Engineer, Jaipur, Rajpootana.

By Command,
PUNDIT KISHER LALL,
Private Secretary to His Highness
The Maharajah of Jaipur, K. G., C. S. I.

COMMISSARIAT NOTICE.

SEALED TENDERS will be received by the EXECUTIVE COMMISSARIAT OFFICERS at BOMBAY and POONA on 3rd November, at Noon precisely, for the following SUPPLIES required daily by the NATIVE INFANTRY TROOPS at AHMEDNAGAR, SHOLAPOOR, BELGAUM and DHARWAR, for 2 months, commencing from 15th November 1876:—

Flour or Rice.
Dhall, Toor.
Ghee.
Salt of unexceptionable quality, and on the following conditions:—

1. The Provisions to be furnished daily on Requisitions signed by the Commanding Officers of each Corps.
2. The total quantity of each article mentioned in the Requisitions should be given over each morning by the Contractor to some person authorized in writing by the Commanding Officer to receive the same.
3. Government will at each station provide the Contractors with the necessary storage.
4. Samples of each article to accompany Tenders.
5. In event of disputes arising as to quality of any article such dispute will be referred to the Collector, or in his absence to the Assistant Collector in charge, whose decision shall be final.
6. Contractors will be paid weekly for supplies made and accounts adjusted at the end of the month.
7. No Tenders will be received unless accompanied by the usual cash deposit of 5 per cent and further Bonded Security of 20 per cent will be required to be furnished on acceptance of the Tender. The cash deposit will be forfeited in event of the Tenderer withdrawing from his Tender or on failing to execute the Contract Deeds.
8. The necessary Deeds of Agreement to be completed through the Executive Commissariat Officer on the Tender being sanctioned by the Commissary General.
9. The following are the estimated quantities monthly required by the Native Troops at Belgaum:—

Flour (2nd sort) or Rice	lbs. 125,693
Dhal, Toor	„ 18,842
Ghee	„ 5,029
Salt	„ 2,122

and half of the above quantities are estimated monthly for each of the remaining stations of Dharwar, Ahmednagar and Sholapoor.

10. For further particulars apply to the Executive Commissariat Officers at Poona and Bombay.

11. No rent will be assigned for the rejection of the lowest or any Tender.

F. P. MIGNON, Colonel,
For Acting Commissary General.

Commissary General's Office, Bombay, 30th October 1876.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

GRANT ROAD THEATRE.

STAR COMPANY.
TO-DAY, TUESDAY, 31st OCTOBER.
SPECIAL ATTRACTION!
FIRST APPEARANCE
with this Company of
THE POPULAR TENOR VOCALIST,
Mr. GEORGE NORVILLE.

The performance will commence with the Screaming Farce,

TIMOTHY TO THE RESCUE!

And conclude with the Favorite Extravaganza,

GAMARALZAMAN AND BADOURA;
OR,
THE BAD DJINN AND THE GOOD SPIRIT.

PRINCE GAMARALZAMAN.....Mr. GEO. NORVILLE.

During the Burlesque will be introduced,
"Sly Robert hart when a Boy" (Ballad)..Mr. Geo. Norville.
Rose Song (Il Talismano).....Mr. Geo. Norville.
Song (Duet) ..... { Mr. Geo. Norville. / Miss Minnie Williams.

PRICES OF ADMISSION.
Dress Circle, Rs. 3. Stalls, Rs. 2. Gallery, Rs. 1.
PIT ANNAS EIGHT.
Seats can be secured at Messrs. SOUNDY & Co.'s.
Doors open at 8-30. Performance to commence at 9.

STEAM TO ADEN, SUEZ, AND THE WESTERN PORTS OF ITALY.

(VIA SUEZ CANAL.)

NOTICE.—The Italian Mail Steamer BATAVIA, Capt. Crocco, will sail as above on WEDNESDAY, the 1st November, 1876, at 10 A.M. Passengers are requested to be on board at 9 A.M.

C. GRONDONA,
Agent, Rubattino S. N. Company.

NOTICE.—CONSIGNEES per Steamer NAPLES are hereby informed of the ARRIVAL of the Vessel and REQUESTED to TAKE DELIVERY AT ONCE of their respective GOODS. No CLAIM of any kind will be PAID after the departure of the Steamer unless it be previously passed by the Captain.

W. NICOL & Co., Agents.

Bombay, 30th October 1876.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES OF CARGO PER SHIP LADY EGIDIA.—CONSIGNEES are hereby informed of the ARRIVAL of the above vessel from CALCUTTA and are requested to present their BILLS of LADING, to PAY the FREIGHT due and to TAKE DELIVERY of their respective GOODS without delay.

W. & A. GRAHAM & Co.,
Agents, Ship Lady Egidia.

Bombay, 30th October 1876.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.—NOTICE.—The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the MEMBERS of the Chamber of Commerce will be held THIS DAY, at 12 o'clock Noon at the Offices of the Chamber.

The attendance of Members is particularly requested.

By Order of the Committee,
J. GORDON, Secretary.

Bombay Chamber of Commerce, 31st October 1876.

FOR SALE AT THIS OFFICE.

THE ACT OF PARLIAMENT constituting the HIGH COURT of BOMBAY, with the Letters Patent and other Documents relating to the same. Price RUPEES THREE.

THE POSITIVE GOVERNMENT SECURITY LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, Limited.

Capital,
£500,000, with power to increase.
HEAD OFFICE,
34, Cannon Street, London.

The last Meeting of Shareholders in London on the 8th August was most satisfactory, as also was the Report of the Committee of Investigation and the Directors' Report.

From subscribed capital there remains in hand untouched a remunerative sum of £118,215. Of this over £72,000 is invested in Consols, Indian Security, &c.

On the 31st December last the liability existing upon claims, present or future, was, according to Dr. Farr, £83,236-15-1. To meet this liability the sum in hand, from premiums invested in Consols or Indian Government Security, was £90,725 and in addition to this EXISTING FUND there was the Guarantee of £47,349 reserved from the subscribed capital, and invested in the Trustees' names in Consols.

ASSURANCES EFFECTED

In Five Different Forms.

WHOLE LIFE POLICIES
With payment of Premiums ceasing, at the option of the Assured,
After 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, or 30 years.

WHOLE LIFE POLICIES
With Premiums payable during continuance of Life.

POLICIES FOR JOINT LIVES,
Payable at decease of the First which shall fall of Two Lives.

POLICIES FOR SHORT TERMS.
Of from 1 to 10 years.

ENDOWMENT POLICIES.
Payable at 50, 55, 60, or 65 years of age, or earlier in the event of death.

OPINIONS OF THE LONDON PRESS.

The *Times*:—"Contrasting this Plan of Life Insurance with that heretofore in operation, it will be found that Insurers enjoy *privileges of a most valuable character; and the public will do well to look into the principles of the new system now in operation, which offers perfect security and also protects their rights and interests.*"

The *Post Magazine*:—"We have from time to time expressed our approval of the principles upon which the *Positive* Company has been founded, and that the public has coincided in that approval the report very clearly indicates.

"Life Assurance is a very profitable business, and an office which furnishes the best known security, and at the same time give the best terms, will ultimately command the largest business. The *Positive*, therefore, whilst foregoing the dishonest profits arising from forfeitures, expects to receive the certain reward of fair dealing—numerous and extensive transactions."

The *Globe*:—"At all events, under the plan of the 'Positive Company,' the assured need feel no apprehension for the security of the principal sum they have provided for their families, or for the loss of the Premiums already paid if they are unable to continue their payments."

EXPLANATION
OF
THE POSITIVE PLAN.

POSITIVE LIFE ASSURANCE is an entirely new system which confers several highly important advantages on the Assured, never before presented to the public.

The word "Positive" is employed, because it definitely expresses the object now accomplished, namely, that of giving the Assured a "positive" negotiable property, resting on Government security, for every premium paid.

According to general custom, every premium paid on a life-policy is a "payment" to the office. In most cases it is non-returnable, except the Assured should die whilst the policy is in force.

This defect in Life Assurance is remedied by the Positive system, under which 40 per cent. of every premium paid is a "deposit" belong ng to the Assured, in the same way as a deposit in a bank, withdrawable at the option of the depositor. Such deposit is represented by a Positive Note, free from all conditions, entitling "the bearer" to the sum assured at death, or to withdraw the deposit three days after presentation. This simple arrangement entirely changes the position of the Assured with the office; because he never loses cent ol over his money; full value for which he must receive in some way or other. For although he can only withdraw 40 per cent. of his premium payments, he gets full value for the other 60 per cent. by being assured.

Placing the power of withdrawing 40 per cent. of all premiums paid in the hands of the Assured, enables them to test the solvency of the Company at any time, in the same manner the depositors in a doubtful bank usually resort to, namely, by taking out their cash; whereas in ordinary Life Assurance Companies, the Assured possesses no such power, hence the dissatisfaction with Life Assurance and the slow progress it makes with the public.

Under the Positive system, this power of redeeming its assurance engagements is always possessed, resulting from investing the whole of the net premiums in Government Securities, besides a nominal fifth of the paid-up Capital in special trust, for the sole purpose of providing for them, and for no other purpose. The Trust is regulated by a deed, under power contained in the Company's Memorandum of Association, and the Trust Funds cannot be misdirtable, except for assurance engagements, under any circumstances whatever.

Under all contingencies, the Assured in "The Positive" exercises independent control over the office—he can at any time retire from it without loss—his position is defined at the time he pays his first premium—and nothing can occur to deprive him of any benefit he purchases.

The usual restrictions respecting travelling, foreign residence, paying probate, or legacy duty, and all other conditions, are abolished, consequently, Life Assurance is stripped of all those uncertainties and conditions which have hitherto been connected with it.

The lives of the Upper Class of Natives assured at special rates which can be had on application.

To save in suppr hens on on a point on which there is always some doubt, on the demise of the Assured the amount assured is paid to the heirs, assigns and 3 months afterwards without demur.

All Forms, Prospectuses, also last year's Report, can be had on application to

ALFRED L. GILLAM, Agent.

Bombay Office, 4, Hornby Row.

TREACHER & COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE.—The Company's wholesale

QUARTERLY PRICE CURRENT
OF
DRUGS, CHEMICALS,
PHARMACEUTICAL AND PROPRIETARY PREPARATIONS,
SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS AND APPLIANCES,
AND
DRUGGISTS' SUNDRIES OF ALL KINDS,
FOR OCTOBER 1876.

In the above we have endeavoured to meet the requirements of our Medical friends and constituents throughout India, to whose notice, and that of the Profession generally, we submit the following considerations:—

Through our London Agency we are in a position to avail ourselves of all favourable fluctuations in rates, and of personal selection in the best markets.

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COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE

MONDAY EVENING, 30TH OCT. 1876.

As usual on Monday, we have no fresh telegraphic news to notice, but the political telegrams published in our columns this morning give increased hope of a peaceful settlement of the Turkish Question being arrived at.

The Bank of Bombay return for the week ending on Saturday shows, as was generally expected, a slight improvement in strength. The changes are :—

Government Balance at H. O.	Dec. Rs.	7,52,312
Do. do. Branches...	Inc. ,,	30,934
Deposits	Inc. ,,	12,20,211
Government Securities	Dec. ,,	60,168
Cash Credits	Dec. ,,	84,979
Loans	Dec. ,,	59,483
Bills Discounted.....	Inc. ,,	2,01,222
Cash with Correspondents	Inc. ,,	1,03,231
Cash and Currency Notes	Inc. ,,	3,47,294

From these alterations it is evident that but for the Government Withdrawals the position of the Bank would have recovered more than it lost the previous week, and as it is the relative strength is greater. Trade requirements continue remarkably light, and leaving out the Government account money seems likely to continue easy until the export season fairly sets in, which cannot be for another couple of months yet at least.

STERLING EXCHANGE has shown increased weakness to-day and rates are fully 1 16d. lower all round. Some little enquiry has been experienced for Bank Bills, but there has been no Private Paper offering worthy of notice, nor can there be until more produce is available. We quote :—

Bank Bills on demand .....1s. 8 5/16d.		per Rupee.
Do 6 months' sight...1s. 8 5/8d.		,,
Credits 3 ,, ...1s. 8 19/32d.		,,
Documents 3 ,, ...1s. 8¼d.		,,

On Calcutta no business is reported and rates are nominally unchanged,—a remark which is equally applicable to GOVERNMENT PAPER which is dull at former quotations.

The SHARE MARKET has been more active than for some time back. Bank of Bombays are one per cent higher, and Spinning and Weaving shares are in request at a general improvement of Rs. 5 to Rs. 15 per share. Colaba Land Co. shares are Rs. 5 and Mazagons Rs. 10 per share higher, Mofussil Co. Rs. 5 lower.

COTTON continues very firm and the local mills are steady buyers at hardening prices, especially of the better kinds of Dholleras and Comptas. Exporters keep out of the market, nor does there seem much probability of their being able to operate under home prices until supplies become much more liberal.

FREIGHTS are steady owing to the absence of ready tonnage, but there is very little cargo offering. By the Macedonia (s.s.) to arrive, a large parcel of Wheat is said to have been booked for Liverpool at £2 5, but measurement cargo is scarce and nominally £2 2 6 per ton.

PIECE GOODS are still very quiet at unchanged prices. The backward tendency of Exchange, however, renders sellers a shade firmer, and although there is no actual advance, full rates are now asked.

BOMBAY BILL AND STOCK LIST.

BANKS.

Banks.	No. of Shares.	Nomi. Value p. sh.	Pa i up.	Last Dividend.	Cash. Rates per Share.
		Rs.	Rs.	p. a.	Rs.
Agra Bank	100,000	100	all	5 p. ct	103
Bank of Bengal	40,000	500	all	10 do.	720
Bank of Bombay	20,000	500	all	10 do.	710
Bank of Madras	10,000	500	all	8 do.	640
Ch rtered Mercantile Bank of I. L. & China.	30,000	250	all	8 do.	300
Hong. & Shanghai Bank.	40,000	125	all	8 do.	335
Chartered Bank of India and China	40,000	200	all	5 do.	175
National Bank of India.	37,320	250	125	6 do.	106
Oriental Bank.....	60,000	250	all	11 do.	590

BANK OF BOMBAY.

STATEMENT of the affairs of the Bank of Bombay on the 28th October as compared with the statement issued on the 21st October :—

LIABILITIES.	21st Oct. Rs.	28 h Oct. Rs.
Proprietors' Capital	1,00,00,000	1,00,00,000
Reserve Fund, invested in Government Securities	20,00,000	20,00,000
Government General Treasury Balance at Head Office	84,35,565	76,82 253
Do. do. at Branches.	11,71,374	11,52,388
Other Deposits	1,12,95,748	1,25,15,959
Post Bills	49,103	49,324
Cash Credits, undrawn	3,01,338	2,55,421
	3,32, 3,388	3,36,56,264
ASSETS.		
Government Securities	59,46,999	58,86,831
Cash Credits, on Government Paper, Bullion, and Merchandise	15,29,090	14,44,111
Loans on Security of do. do.	24,71,998	24,12,515
Current Accounts, overdrawn	1,308	7,041
Bills Discounted	1,27,10,764	1,29,12,286
Stamps	4,130	4,044
Dead Stock ..... Rs. 5,16,556		
Amount applied in reduction ,, 1,55,000		
	3,61,744	3,61,556
Bullion	.....	.....
Cash Balances with Correspondents ...	1,64,079	2,07,310
Cash and Currency Notes	1,00,73,376	1,04,20,370
	3 32, 3,388	3,36,56,264

CALCUTTA MONEY MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE "ENGLISHMAN," THURSDAY EVENING.

ANY change in the value of money has been in the upward direction, but the change has been very slight. The Bank minimum remains at 6 per cent., but for discount of good bills 7 per cent. may be quoted as the market rate. Trade is assuming more important proportions, and it is likely a large export business will take place this cold weather. A large amount of tonnage has been secured at advancing prices, and the demand for carrying rice to Madras, one result of the Deccan famine, has been very important ; in fact, all the available tonnage, ready and to arrive shortly, may be said to be fully engaged. Ordinary articles of export are nearly all very dear, and will require more money to move—a good deal more than they did last year ; and although the movements of rice would not take money out of the country, they would tend to employ money, and thus indirectly act on the foreign exchanges. It is therefore very desirable that imports of silver should take place, and all the shipments already advised will be welcome.

Rates of sterling exchange here continue rather to hang behind the rise in England, but they are gradually following it, and gaining upon it. The rise on the other side is very marked and steady : yesterday's issue of Council bills met with buyers at a farther advance of 1 to 1½ per cent., the amount drawn on Bombay having been taken at 1-8½ in demand drafts and that on Calcutta at 1-8 9/16 by telegraphic transfer. This shows an increased demand for remittance eastward in excess of what the exchange market here pointed to. Rates are getting comparatively high, but it is quite possible, indeed probable, that they may further advance. The silver "scare" is pretty well exploded at all events for the present, and even now rates may be called low. About this time last year the silver question was just beginning to receive attention and although exchange stood then at nearly 2d. per rupee higher than it does now, a further decline to any extent was believed in by very few. Since then, everything telling against the standing of silver has had full scope for action, and the most extreme depression of that metal has been witnessed. Its real position has now been very clearly exposed, and the balance of trade in favour of India, both actual and prospective, has been greatly increased, so, with the altered state of export trade from this country, there is great reason to believe that exchange will still further improve, as at the very least, remain steady at the present advanced level. Many are sanguine enough to believe that a return to the old normal price of silver is possible, but, without going so far as that, it now seems probable that a basis will naturally be attained, which will enable international financing to be carried on advantageously to all concerned in it, without calling for Government interference with the present basis of the country's currency. Altogether India may be said to have gained by the silver panic, in having got possession of a large amount of the metal at an abnormally low price.

Although money has rather increased in value in the bazar, the Bank of Bengal has not been pressed upon, and that is some assurance that dear money is not imminent. Government has drawn out 13 lakhs during the past week, which is not much, considering that all last week's Council bills were drawn on Calcutta ; their balances in the Bank still exceed 2½ crores, so the element of monetary stringency still remains, but their recent action has considerably reduced the public demands in that quarter. The public demand on the Bank has slightly decreased. The bills discounted have gone down 9 lakhs, against which has to be set an increase of 5 lakhs in the loans and credits, and a decrease of 2 lakhs in the deposits, leaving 2 lakhs in favour of the Bank. The investments having been reduced by a lakh, the cash has been drawn down, notwithstanding the Government withdrawals. The proportion of cash to liabilities is now 53 per cent.

Money in England is getting rather dearer, but the Bank minimum of 2 per cent. remains unchanged.

EXCHANGE.

Sterling has followed a continuously upward course, any slight check having been but of momentary duration. For the last mail Bank bills, at six months' sight, closed steadily at 1-8¾, but for the present opportunity scarcely anything was taken until 1-8 7/16 to 1-8¾ was conceded, and at the higher rate nearly all the business, not a large one, for the going mail, was concluded. Telegraphic transfer has been arranged to a considerable extent, beginning at 1-8 3/16 ready, and 1-8¼ forward, until 1-8 5/16 was reached for either. Document bills have gone at from 1-8¾ to 1-8¾, a good many of them for forward delivery, and credits have been taken at from 1-8 3/16 to 1-8¾. All this business was done up to and previous to last evening. To-day and to-morrow are holidays, so yesterday's rate must be quoted as practically the closing rates for the mail, namely as under :—

Bank telegraphic transfer.....	1-8 5/16.
Bank Bills on demand	1 8 5/16.
Bank Bills 3 months' sight	1-8¾.
Bank Bills 6 months' sight	1-8¾.
Credits and Clean Private Paper, 6 months' sight	1-8⅝ to 11/16.
Document Bills 6 months' sight...	1-8¾

But to-day's rates must be called higher. Although the Banks are officially shut, it has been possible to arrange telegraphic transfer at 1 8¾, and documents seem unsaleable below 1-9, and other descriptions in proportion.

France.—Yesterday's rates were quoted at ƒ.2-17 three months' sight, and at ƒ.2.18½ six months' sight, document bill's.

Bombay.—Not the slightest change : par for demand, and 99.4-0 for sixty-day-sight Bank bills, are still quoted.

China.—Nothing doing, so the last steamer's rate of 224 for thirty-day sight private paper is repeated.

STOCKS AND SHARES.

Taken as a whole the market is better, and business is rather on the increase, though not to the extent that might reasonably have been expected. The speculative element is, however, gradually being eliminated, and stocks are gradually finding their way into *bona fide* investing hands.

Government Securities are no better than they were. A better tone has been seen from time to time, but it has not been held, and the market closes dull, with stock offering. The dealings in four per cents. began at ½ per cent. premium, declined to par, and finally advanced to ½ per cent. premium, but closed weaker. The four-and-a-half per cent. stock has found buyers at from ½ to ¾ per cent. premium, but has since been done at ½ per cent. Five-and-a-halfs have, perhaps, been best maintained, going at from 2½ to 3 per cent. premium, and closing rather steady. Yesterday's closing quotations were :

4 per cents	100¼
4½ ,, ...	100¼
5½ ,, ...	103

Bank Shares are strong, Bengal's having brought from 710 to 720, closing very firm. National's, however, are scarcely so good as they were, and the transactions have been at 114¼ and 114.

Tea Shares are very well maintained, and any turns are upwards. Central Cachar's have gone at from 158 to 165, Dooranga's at from 79 to 80, Holta's at from 110 to 112, Soorgoo's at 115, Amlukie's at 118¼, Soom's at 96, Tukvar's at 117 and 118, Hoolungooree's ex-dividend at 103, Bengal's at 80 and 81, Bienauth's at 415, Chota Nagpore's at par, East India's at 82, Jheeree Ghat's at 76, and Dessai Parbattia's at 150.

Spinning Mill Stocks are gaining ground slowly, and from the nature of their working and its results are likely to advance. The Jute Mills all tend upwards. Business has been done in Budge-Budge's at 80, Howrah's 79 and 80 Calcutta Jute 60, Barnagore's 80, and Bengal Jute 90 to 102. Cotton Mills also ; Bowreah's 95 and 94, Dunbar 76, and Goosery asked for at 218. In fact, there is an enquiry for all sorts.

Coal Shares.—A good demand has sprung up for Bengal's, which have been dealt in at 1,350, and are saleable at the price. Raneegunge's are depressed, and have been quitted at a large reduction at 55 ; then up to 62, and finally at 55 to 51 ; apparently owing to the pressure of weak holders, nothing having transpired to lead to so disastrous a fall in value of the Company's property.

Miscellaneous Shares.—Those of the Press Companies remain strong, though with rather less excitement. Calcutta Hydraulic's have again brought 39, Strand Bank's the advanced price of 22, Watson's from 70 to 80, and Ramkistopore's 61 to 62. Landing and Shipping are also better, 63 to 64, but in India General nothing is doing.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

THE P. and O. Co.'s s. s. ADRIA, 781 tons, Captain W E. Breeze, arrived in harbour yesterday from China with China mails, and general cargo.

THE S. S. PEARL, 366 tons, Captain M. McGregor, arrived in harbour on the 28th instant from Coast and Cutch, with a general cargo, and one hundred and fourteen deck passengers.

THE B. I. S. N. Co.'s s. s. AKOLA, 315 tons, Captain J. M. Williams, sailed yesterday for Kattywar Coast and Kurrachee, with a general cargo and the following passengers :—Colonel Boyd and servant, and 245 deck passengers.

THE SHIP LADY EGIDIA, 1,288 tons, Captain George Self, arrived, in harbour, on the 29th instant from Calcutta (September 6th), with a cargo of rice and gunnies. The vessel is consigned to Messrs. W. and A. Graham and Co.

THE s.s. PEHLWAN, 101 tons, Captain T. Ellis, arrived in harbour yesterday from Coast and Goa, with a general cargo and the following passengers :—Lieut. Murphy R. A., Mrs. Manau, and one hundred and forty-two deck passengers.

THE B. I. S. N. Co's s.s. CALCUTTA, 863 tons, Captain T. Nailor, arrived in harbour yesterday from Persian Gulf via Kurrachee, with a general cargo and the following passengers :—Mr. G. Kingsmill, Capt Prickett, thirty-seven deck passengers, seventy-nine horses and nineteen syce.

THE A. H. LLOYD, Co.'s s.s. JUNO, 1,233 tons, Capt. G. Sturli, arrived in harbour on the 29th instant from Trieste (October 1st), via the Suez Canal, with a general cargo and the following passengers :—From Trieste. —Mr. and Mrs. A. Beer, Mr. E. de Vess, Mr. F Bill, Mr. F. Fibriz, Mr. and Mrs. Stobich, and Mr. A' Cazvin. From Aden—Mr. Mahamdally and son.

The following is the list of passengers per Italian mail steamer Batavia Captain Crocco sailing on the 1st November at 10 A. M. for Genoa and Marseilles :—For Marseilles, Mr. Michael de Souza, for Genoa, Col Hunt and one servant, Mr. C F Amony, and two children, Mr. G. Madden, Mr. G. Miles, Mr. E M. George, Mr. C. Smith, Mr. Thandow yin min, Mr. Moung Monnee and six others, Baron A. Kalkreuth, for Naples, Captain B. Wemyss, Revd C. H. Leigh Lye, Mr. C. Chambers, Mr. Chambers, Revd H. Rice for Aden, Mr. Sorabjee Manockjee, Mr. W. Scott, Mahdoo Gunoo Vanee, Gopal Bhajutram, and two others. Framjee Dorabjee, Mangjee Chapsee, Girthur Jaitha, Mahomed Abdoolrspaman Abdoola Cojat's, Mr. Leitner, Mowjee Jaitha and two others Janerchund Manockchund and 2 others.

THE s. s. NAPLES, 1,473 tons, Captain J. D. Eaton, arrived in harbour yesterday from London (September 30th), via Port Said, and Suez and via the Suez Canal. with following cargo :—866 cases brandy, 100 cases claret, 24 cases whiskey, 2 casks sherry, 213 cases wine, 9 packages varnish, 87 packages piece-goods, 26 cases prints, 4845 bars and 505 bundles iron, 222 cases soap, 6 cases butter, 113 bales paper, 10 casks ink, 19 packages marble, 40 casks clay, 519 packages beer, 180 casks spirits, 279 cases geneva, 15 cases acid, 5 casks print, 800 cases candles, 125 drums oil, 26 cases clocks, 59 barrels tar, 53 cases pencil, 46 cases slates, 232 packages wine and spirit, 25 barrels salamoniac, 1.500 packages steel, 21 cases gin, 650 kegs nail, 303 packages oilmanstore, 73 packages provision, 48 cases glass, 35 packages glassware, 12 packages earthenware 50 barrels tinplates, 25 bales twist, 25 kegs soda, and many other packages for transhipment different parts. The vessel is consigned to Messrs. W. Nicol and Co.

ARRIVALS.

Oct.	Vessels.	Commanders.	From.
28	Pearl (s).....	McGregor	Goa, Oct 26.
29	Juno (s).....	Sturli.....	Trieste, Oct 1.
	Lady Egidia	Self.....	Calcutta, Sept 6.
30	Pehlwan (s).....	Ellis.....	Coast and Goa.
	Pehlwan (s).....	Ellis.....	Goa. Oct 26.
	Adria (s)	Breeze	Hong Kong, Oct 7.
	Calcutta	Nailor	Bussorah, Oct 11.

DEPARTURES.

Oct.	Vessels.	Commanders.	Destination.
30	Akola (s).....	Williams	K. Coast & Kurrachee.
	Thibet (s).....	Stewart.....	Aden and Suez.

The following vessels were entered out for loading yesterday :—

Steamer Juno, to Trieste &c.
Steamer Golconda, to Aden, Jedda and Hoodoeda.
Steamer Adria to Calcutta.
Steamer Pehlwan, to Coast and Goa.
Steamer Pearl, to Coast and Cutch.
Brig Amizade, to Mozambique and Dummon.

CALCUTTA.

ARRIVALS.

Oct		
28	Madras (s).....	Smith.....Rangoon, Oct 22.
	Colla (s).....	Holmes ..... Bombay, Oct 26.
	European (s).....	Stockwope .....Bombay, Oct 16.

DEPARTURES.

Oct.		
26	Africa (s).....	....
	Merkara (s).....	....
	City of Lucknow ...	....

PASSENGERS.

PER MADRAS.—Col Grant, Mr H L Pemberton, Mr J Owen, 5 European sailors.

DAILY IMPORTS—OCTOBER 30.

FROM LIVERPOOL.

Macedonia—s. 2 packages hosf, Ewart Latham and Co.
Peninsular—s. 1 case hosiery, Leslie Jardine and Co; 1,000 kegs steel, Abdoolrsman Callyjeemed.
India—s. 300 bundles mail rods iron, Ramchunder Mahadew and Co.
Bellona—s. 101 kegs iron Nails, Hassanully Lallmeya ; 50 Carrels salt-ine Keelathoy Heerachund ; 10 casks hardware, Amroodin Fazulally.

FROM LONDON.

Morea—6 packages hardware, Trebathy Dawoodjee.
Bellona—s. 186 Kegs red lead, Hugh D. Fisher and Co.
Athole—s. 1 cases tobacco, Jacob Sassoon and Co; 15 barrels soft soap 1 case french polish and 30 kegs red lead, Rustomjee Forabjee and Co; 2.3 2 bars iron. Lookmanjee Hurjeevan ; 4 75 plates lead and silver, Tezmall Gama.
Verginia Schilezzi—s, 86 4 bars iron, Ramchunder Mahadew and Co.
Propontis—s, 449, bundles hoop iron, Abdulally Goolam Hoosenjee.

FROM ROSSBAUM.

Precursars—s, 45 cases brandy Dhujeebhoy Cawasjee.

DAILY EXPORTS.—OCTOBER 30.

FOR LIVERPOOL.

Zerbino s—4 bales wool, Horridass Gangjee ; 66 bales wool, Ewart Latham and Co ; 1 bales wool, R Jeevandass.

FOR LONDON.

Thibet s—4 cases shawls, Toolseedass Manore ; 2 cases shawls, Moridhur Monilall ; 1 case shawls, Tulsookroy Tirathram ; 2 cases shawls, Amedkha Yousukhan.

FOR TRIESTE.

Juno s—100 bales cotton, Jul s Siegfried and Co ; 450 bales cotton, W Nicol and Co ; 5 0 bales cotton, H Clason and Co ; 700 bales cotton, and 150 bags rape seed, Volkart Brothers ; 500 bales cotton, E Spinner and Co.

FOR MARSEILLES.

Batavia s—25 cwts linseed, Finlay, Scott and Co ; 3,000 bags linseed, Raili Brothers ; 1,150 bales wheat, Tyebjee and Co.

FOR GENOA.

Batavia s—100 bales cotton, E Spinner and Co.

FOR HAVRE.

Zerbino s—105 pieces B teeth, Tyebjee and Co ; 8 bags pepper, Vinay and Co.

FOR VENICE.

Juno s—50 bales cotton, Gaddum and Co.

FOR HONGKONG.

Malwa—s, 50 packages cloves, Currimbhoy Ebram ; 25 cases harkifes, gairashbo Poorbhoy ; 2 cases silver coins, Hajee Ab ool Nor Mahomed ; 15 chests opium, E. G. Abraham ; 8 chests opium, Hajee Ebram Mahomed Abdool Khaliuck ; 10 chests opium, Hajee Abdoola Noor Mahomed ; 59 chests opium, Hajee Adam E mail and Co ; 12 chests opium, Cursetjee Bomanjee and Co ; 75 chests opium, gairashboy Peer hoy ; 75 chests opium, Currimbhoy Ebram ; 16 chests opium, Hurnarain Banerkman ; 4 chests opi m, Jadowjee Mane lall ; 7 chests opium, Fowajeeram Ramchunder ; 17 chests opium, David Sassoon and Co ; 1 chests opium, Gopaljee Kheradass ; 15 bales twist, Tata and Co ; 2 bales silver coins, Ebrahim Noordin and Co ; 10 chests opium E D Sassoon ; 58 chests opium, Ebram Noordin and Co ; 21 chests opium, Varachur d Gumhamdass.

FOR SHANGHAI.

Malwa s—35 chests opium, E J Abraham ; 10 chests opium, David sassoon and Co ; 20 chests opium, Cursetjee Bomanjee and Co ; 5 chests opium, Framjee Hormusjee ; 8 chests opium, Manockjee Chounsiaj ; 23 chests opium, E D Sassoon.

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.—OCTOBER 28.

Smith, Lieut, Bombay 22nd Regt N I, on duty, from Mhow.

OCTOBER 29.

Hunt Lieut, Bombay R A, from leave, from Poona.
Macnaghton, Lieut, Bombay 2nd Light Cavalry, on sick leave, from Rajkote.

OCTOBER 30.

Murphy, Lieut, Bombay R A, on leave, from Belgaum.
Prickett, Capt, Bombay 50th Regt, on leave, from Kurrachee.

DEPARTURES—OCTOBER 28.

Smith, Lieut, Bombay 22nd Regt N I, to join, to Mhow.

OCTOBER 30.

Brown, Col, Bengal 109th Regt, from leave, to Dinapore.
Bird, Lieut, Bengal 4th Cavalry H C, on Med Cert, to England.
Pedder, Capt, Bombay Staff Corps, on duty, to Surat.
Richardson, Lieut, Bengal 18th Cavalry, to rejoin, to Allahabad.
Richardson, Col, on retired, to England.

NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES ORDERS.

(North-Western Provinces Gazette, October 28.)

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

The undermentioned officers have been granted leave of absence :—

Mr G H M Ricketts, C B, Comr of the Allahabad Div, 30 days' privilege leave, with effect from the 12th Nov, 1876 or subsequent date.

Mr E White, Asst Mag and Collr, one year's furlough to Europe, together with the usual subsidiary leave, with effect from the 20th Oct 1876.

The one month's privilege leave granted to Mr H M Bird, Asst Mag and Collr, Etah, by Notification No 1337 A, dated the 8th Aug 1876, is hereby cancelled.

The unta en portion of the one and a half month's privilege leave granted to Mr R White, Asst Mag and Collr, Bijnor, by Notification No 1389A, dated 16th Aug 1876, is hereby cancelled.

H H the Offg Lt Govr has been pleased to direct the following rev sion :—

Mr J S Porter Settlement Officer, 2n grade, Jhansi, to revert to his substantive appointment as Dpy Comr, 3rd class, Lalitpur, with effect from the 21st Sept 1876.

H H the Offg Lt Govr has been pleased to direct the following transfers :—

Mr H P Mulock, Offg Joint Mag, 1st grade, from Mainpur to Bijnor.

Mr H S Barnes, Asst Mag and Collr, from Shahjehanpur to Moradabad.

Mr A J Lawrence, Mag and Collr, from Etawah to Agra.

Mr W Kaye, Offg Mag and Collr, Agra, in the same capacity to Etawah, on the expiry of his privilege leave.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

The untaken portion—viz, six days—of the one month's privilege leave granted to Surgn B O'Brien Civil Surgn, Jhansi, by Notification No 573A, dated 1st Sept 1876, is hereby cancelled.

Surgn H M Linton, in medical charge 2 th Punjab Regt of N I, Officiated as Civil Surgn, Jhansi, in addition to his other duties, from the 10th to the 24th Sept, 1876, both dates inclusive

Surgn J Moran, Offg Civil Surgn, from Azamgarh to Farukhabad.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

H H the Offg Lt-Govr has been pleased to make the following appointments and postings—

Mr J J D LaTouche, Dist Supt of Police, 1st grade, to officiate as Settlement Officer, 3rd grade, and to be posted of the Jhansi dist.

Mr G Butt, Asst Settlement Officer, 1st grade, to be Settlement Officer, 3rd grade, and to be posted to the Etah and Farukhabad aistcts.

CENTRAL PROVINCES ORDERS.

(Central Provinces' Gazette, October 28.)

Capt R W C H Miller, Asst Comr, Man'a, availed himself of ten days' privilege leave granted to him by Notification No 3825, dated 11th inst, on the 12th idem, before noon.

Mr W M Low, C S, Comr, Nerbudda Div, on furlough in India, is permitted to return to duty before the expiry of his leave, the unexpired portion of his leave, from this date he may receive charge of the Nerbudda Div, is cancelled.

The Chief Co r is pleased to appoint the Dist Supt of Police Nagpor, for the time being, to be an "ex-officio" member of the Nagpur Dist Fund Committee.

One day's privilege leave with absence is granted to Surgn Maj J R Fleming, C B, Civil Surgn of Hoshangabad, in extension of the one month and tw nty days, leave granted to him by Notification No 2358, dated 22nd June last.

Maj L Fraser, C S, Asst Comr, Seoni, transferred to Jubbulpore, reported his arrival and assumed charge of his duties at the latter station, on the 21st instant forenoon.

The services of Mr Lindsay Neill C S, Offg Asst Secy to the Chief Comr, are placed at the disposal of th Govt of India.

Mr F C Anderson, C S, Asst Comr, is appointed officiate as Asst Secy to the Chief Comr, vice Mr Lindsay Neill, or until further orders.

Capt H H Hallett, Asst Comr, is appointed Personal Asst to the Chief Comr.

Mr J Steell, Ex Engr, Nagri Div, Wardha Valley State Railway, is granted seventeen days' privilege leave of absence, with effect from the 8th Nov 1876.

Mr J Y Davidson, Ex Engr, 4th grade, attached to the Hinganghat Division Wardha Valley Railway, is appointed to officiate as Ex Engr of the Nagri Divn, Wardha Valley Railway during the absence on seventeen days' privilege leave of Mr J Steel, or until further orders.

ORDERS BY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF IN INDIA.

(Adjutant General's Office, Simla, 16th October 1876.)

The C-in-C in India is pleased to make the following appointments :—

23rd Native Infantry.—Lt A E Jones, 70th Foot, a candidate for the S C, to be Offg 2nd Wing Subn on probation, dated 25th Oct 1876.

25th Native Infantry.—Lt C H H Beley, 2-1st Foot, a candidate for the S C to be Offg 2nd Wing Subn on probation, with effect from the 21st Apr 1876.

Lt Col R S Simonds, B S C, and Maj W F Battleman, B1 Infy, are transferred for general duty from Allahabad to Cawnpore.

Lieut ol A H Lindsay, C A, is directed to proceed from Bareilly to Rawal Pindi, for duty with the R A.

Under Clause V, paragraph 135, Part II of the Transport Regulations :—

The following movements of Vety Surgns are ordered :—

Vety Surgn J E Filphick, R A, will march with F Batt F Bgde R H A from Rawal Pindi to Delhi, and will there take charge of the horses of D Batty 8th Bgde, and proceed with that battery to Nowgong, there to be stationed.

Vety Surgn T J Symonds, R H A, will march with A Batty F Bgde R H A, from Meean Meer to Rawal Pindi, there to be stationed.

Vety Surgn J J Philips, R A, will march with A Batty C Bgde R H A from Meerut to Delhi, and thence to Meean Meer, there to be stationed.

Vety Surgn F F Crawford, R A, will march with A Batty 19th Bgde from Agra to Delhi, and will there take charge of the horses of F Batty F Bgde R A, from Vety Surgn Filphick, and proceed with that battery to Morar, there to be stationed.

Vety Surgn C Clayton will march with G Batty 11th Bgde from Nowgong to Delhi, and thence to Meean Meer.

Vety Surgn Bathewa, Vety Dept is directed to Rawal Pindi and take over charge of the 4th Hussars from Vety surgn Filphick, R A.

Under Clause V, para 135, Part II of the Transport Regulations.

The undermentioned candidates are reported to have passed the lower standard in Hindostanee on the 16th Oct 1876 :—

Sub Conductor J Moorhead, Clerk Gr Mr General's Office, Sergt R Turner, Corps of Guides, Q M G's Office, R A.

The following orders are confirmed :—

70th Foot.—Regl Order, dated the 1st Oct 1876, appointing Lt F F Roupell to be Adjt, vice Lt A Mackey, who resigned the appointment.

6th Bengal Cavalry.—Regtl Order, dated the 7th Oct 1876, making the following arrangement on the app int ment of Lt C W Muir to be Aide-de camp to the Hon the President in Council, with effect from the 6th idem :—

Maj E R E Sconce to off iate as 2nd in Command, in addition to his other duties.

Lt J C F Gordon, Offg 1st Sqdn Subn, to officiate as Adjt.

The undermentioned medical subordinate has leave of absence :—

Asst Apothecary William Whitby, attached to 2-12th Foot, to remain in Madras for six months, on his return, in extension of the leave granted in G O C C of the 8th May 1876.

The undermentioned officers have leave of absence :—

Royal Horse Artillery—Capt Williams, (2 Batty F Bgde,) to Meerut, from the 3rd to the 25th Nov, on urgent private affairs.

13th Hussar—Lt J K Spilling, to the port of embarkation, for thirty days from date of availing himself of it ; and thence to England, for twelve months from date of embarkation, on private affairs.

16th Lancers—Capt T Davison, to England, on private affairs, from date of embarkation, until landing of the Regt, in England.

Royal Artillery—Maj Bar J W Campbell, (G Batty, 11th Bgde,) to remain at Jubbulpore from the 15th to the 30th Oct, on urgent private affairs, in extension of privilege leave.

Staff Corps—Lt Col C R Shaw, (doing duty at Lucknow,) to remain at Simla, from the 16th Oct to the 1st Nov, on private affairs, in extension of the leave granted him in G O C C of the 29th Aug last p 338.

Maj R J Walker, (2nd in Command 17th N I,) to remain at Bankipore, from the 1st Nov to the 31st Dec next, on very urgent private affairs, in extension of privilege leave.

Maj E P Angelo, (Fort Adjt, Chunar,) to remain at Mussoorie to the 31st Dec next, on medical certificate, in extension of the leave granted to him in G O C C of the 19th Feb 1 st, p 56.

Maj A McLellan, (Q M G's Asst, Agra,) to Rawal Pindi and adjacent hills, from the 12th June to the 15th Oct, on private affairs, under the rules of 1868.

British Medical Service—Surgn R W O'Donnell, attached to the 2-12th Foot, to Kasgra, from the 6th Oct to the 5th Dec, on medical certificate.

(Adjutant General's Office, Simla, 19*th October* 1876.)

The C-in-C in India is pleased to sanction the undermentioned retirement, and to make the following promotions :—

24th Regiment—Sub-Lt Hamilton Drummond Wallace, M L, to be Lieut, from the 31st August 1876, subject to the approval of Her Majesty the Queen.

Capt H H Hallett, Asst Comr, is appointed Personal Asst to the Chief Comr.

Mr J Steell, Ex Engr, Nagri Div, Wardha Valley State Railway, is granted seventeen days' privilege leave of absence, with effect from the 8th Nov 1876.

Mr J Y Davidson, Ex Engr, 4th grade, attached to the Hinganghat Division Wardha Valley Railway, is appointed to officiate as Ex Engr of the Nagri Divn, Wardha Valley Railway during the absence on seventeen days' privilege leave of Mr J Steel, or until further orders.

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LATEST INTELLIGENCE

[REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.]

LONDON, 28TH OCT., AFT.

The Liverpool Cotton Market closed firm. Surats firm.

The London Cotton Market has been firm.

Fair Dhollera	4½d.
Exchange on India	1-8½.
4 per cent. Rupee Paper	85½
4½ per cent. do.	86
5½ per cent. do.	88
Oriental Bank Shares	£43.
Chartered do. do.	£16.
Chartered Mercantile Bank Shares..	£26.
Hongkong and Shanghai	£28.
Total Coin in the Bank of France ..	£85,250,000.
„ Notes in Circulation	£101,250,000.
3 per cent. Consols for account	95½.
5 per cent. French Rente, 1872	105.
Bar Silver	53⅜.

LINE REPORTS.—30TH OCTOBER.

Cable right to Fao. Turkish line right to Persian line right to London.

STEAMER REPORTS.

GALLE, 30TH OCT., 7.44 A.M.

French steamer Djemnah, from Aden, arrived.

GALLE, 30TH OCT., 8-41 P.M.

French Mail steamer Meinam, from Calcutta, arrived.

WEATHER REPORTS.—30TH OCTOBER.

(MADRAS TIMES.)

CANANORE, 5-30 P.M.—Weather fine, wind N.W. thermometer 86, barometer 29·85.

CARWAR, 5 P.M.—Weather fine, wind N. W. 3, thermometer 84, barometer 29·90.

MANGALORE, 12-35 P.M.—Weather fair; wind N. E., N. W

TUTICORIN, 5 P.M.—Weather cloudy, wind N., thermometer 84, barometer 29·86.

VINGORLA, 5 P.M.—Weather clear, wind W. moderate, thermometer 90.

We understand that the Governor sympathises with the Revd. W. Maule in his present position, Mr. Maule having been most unwarrantably superseded in the Archdeaconship by His Lordship the Bishop of Bombay.

At a meeting of the Oudh Talukdars, held at Lucknow on Tuesday last, a sum of Rs. 3,555 was subscribed towards the Northbrook Memorial Fund at Calcutta, and a Committee appointed to collect further subscriptions.

We understand that the Agent and Chief Engineer of the B. B. and C. I. Railway sent yesterday a telegram from Broach to say that this Company's temporary low level bridge over the Nerbudda river for through train service was inspected and passed yesterday by the Consulting Engineer to Government.

The *Madras Mail* has received a telegram from Cochin, dated 28th October, of a fatal accident to a lady :—"Mrs. Stevenson, wife of the Conservator of Forests, Cochin, was killed by a wild elephant on Thursday at Palapully near Trichoor. She was travelling with her husband on horseback with a number of coolies when the elephant suddenly appeared. Mrs. Stevenson being frightened jumped off her pony, and fell, and before she could get out of the way, the elephant rushed on and trod on her neck. Death was instantaneous."

The non-appearance of the G. I. P. Railway Volunteers at the Imperial Assemblage at Delhi will be due solely to the fact that, at the time fixed for the festivities on that occasion, the traffic on the railway is expected from the famine and other causes to be exceptionally heavy. The Government of India desired the attendance of a full company to represent the regiment, but under the circumstances Colonel LeMesurier very prudently declined the invitation. The Government of Bombay have accordingly informed the Government of India that the G. I. P. Railway Volunteers will not be able to send a company of 60 or 80 strong as requested to Delhi.

We read in the Lahore paper that but a very small number of Durbarees have been invited to the Imperial Assemblage at Delhi, and in order to conciliate the remainder it is proposed by the Punjab Government that Durbars shall be held simultaneously on the 1st of January at all the head quarter stations of the province, by Commissioners, who shall invite all Durbarees within their divisions to be present when the object of the Durbar will be explained to them. These Durbars will not in any degree lower the status or dignity of those uninvited to the Imperial Assemblage. The Supreme Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs. 20,000 for the Punjab, towards defraying all incidental charges on such an occasion and the amount has been divided among the various Commissionerships.

The following Ladakh and Yarkand news is published by the *Indian Public Opinion* :—

The roads and bridges in Dursu and the Shayok Valley have been so severely injured by the late rains that it is expected that some time will elapse ere they will be in a condition suitable for the purposes of travelling. The inconvenience will be felt, but considering the scarcity of labour in this remote country, it is not surprising if some considerable delay do take place in their repairs.

An exploration of the Zanskar route is to be undertaken by the Engineer very shortly, but before he finishes his task, snow will have fallen and thus his progress will be rendered difficult.

Mr. Delgleish, the Agent of the Central Asian Trading Company at Yarkand, reports that he is doing a good business and is being treated very kindly. Several caravans of goods belonging to his company are on the road to Leh, where Mr. Russell is waiting to receive charge of them with the view of forwarding them on to India.

The terrible scourge, scarcity of food, is now prevailing in Ladakh, and even the few shop-keepers have found themselves unable to meet demands of the people. During the past year the harvest was altogether a poor one. It is expected that the coming harvest will prove very plentiful.

The language used lately by our Calcutta contemporaries when writing about the powers that be in Bengal, has not been very choice and has certainly set a bad example which the native press is not slow to follow. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, after quoting the remarks in the *English-man* about the treatment Colonel Macdonald of the Survey Department received from the Government, writes as follows :—"The language is strong, so strong that if used by any native of the soil, he would probably be hauled up for contempt. Perhaps there was sufficient cause for this outburst and we are grateful to our contemporary for crying against despotism, but yet we would take this opportunity of reminding our Anglo-Indian contemporaries that the strong language sometimes used by the native press is due to the same cause only in an aggravated form. The injustice done to a high personage like Colonel Macdonald has attracted the notice of our contemporary, but such scenes are familiar to the vernacular press. When persons like the Colonel are not spared, it can be easily imagined how unceremoniously are the natives treated."

The *Madras Mail* learns from the South Arcot District that so far as that locality is concerned, there is as yet no room for anxiety in respect of any part of it except the north-west corner of the Trinomalai taluq, where to some extent the dry crops have failed. Everywhere else the outturn of the harvest has been pretty fair. The total absence of rain in September has caused some of the young rice crops to dry up, and delayed the planting out of others, but if rain falls in a few days, all may yet be well, even in Trinomalai. The same paper says :—"We hear that the Bellary merchants have countermanded by telegraph their orders for rice as the price in Bellary has fallen below that at Madras. No less than some 15,000 bags of rice are in the Railway goods sheds at Madras, and as much more on its way to Bellary, Cuddapah, and Bangalore, and these supplies will be at their destination before Monday. This will doubtless cause a further fall at these places ; the prices in Madras have gone down. Without any extra expense the Madras and South Indian Railway have earned twice as much money in a week during the pressure of rice traffic as they did during the visit of the Prince of Wales."

The following telegram from Colombo, published in the *Madras Mail* on Saturday last, describes the movements of the Duke of Buckingham in Ceylon :—"The Duke spent two hours at the Breakwater on Friday, going out with the hopper barge depositing stone. A grand dinner party was given that night in the Queen's House ; fifty-two persons were present. On Saturday morning the Duke visited the quarries where huge stones for the Breakwater were being prepared, and he gave particular attention to the utilisation of convict labour. In the afternoon he was occupied in visiting the prison, and driving to the Cinnamon Gardens. Sir Neville Chamberlain has gone to Kandy. The Tennasserim leaves at daybreak on Sunday morning, and proceeds to Paumben. Monday will probably be spent in the inspection of the Channel. Nothing is known in answer to enquiries as to whether the original tour is to be altered to enable his Grace to reach Madras quickly." A later telegram says :—"It is decided that the Duke leaves Paumben for Tuticorin on Monday evening and then proceeds on his original tour to Mangalore, returning to Beypore. The trip to Trevandrum is given up, owing to the serious state of affairs in the Madras Presidency. The steamer Margaret Northcote, with the Masters Attendant of Colombo and Tuticorin, left on Friday evening for Paumben to be in readiness for the Duke's inspection of the Channel and Adam's Bridge on Monday morning."

The *Lucknow Times* gives the following particulars of the condition of the Oudh estates and their owners :—"Grievous complaints are made about the Government mismanagement of the encumbered estates in Oudh. We are credibly informed that some of the finest estates are involved more and more in debt ; and in spite of the Oudh Relief Act, and the strenuous exertions of Government officers they are drifting more and more towards ruin. In proof of what we have said above, we will mention one estate, well-known to be one of the richest in Oudh. In 1868, the widow of the late Maharaja Mansing made over the management of his estate to Government. The estate was then indebted to the tune of nearly *two lacs* of rupees. The annual gross collections amount to upwards of *eight lacs*, so that the debt incurred was nothing to speak of. The original debt instead of being diminished is increased year by year, and it now amounts to *three lacs and a half*. This is not all. The revenue payments are not duly made, and the arrears of Government demand amount to nearly a lac of rupees. With proper management these four lacs and a half could be easily paid off. Far from this being the case the rents due from tenants and under proprietors have fallen into large arrears. We are told these come to nearly *nine lacs* of rupees. If these arrears could be realised by judicious management, the estate would at once be free from debt, and leave a large surplus behind. Not only are these arrears not collected, but a large portion of them are unwittingly allowed to be debarred from being collected by the statute of limitation. This is a sad state of affairs, and we would earnestly invite the attention of the Chief Commissioner to this matter, demanding an urgent enquiry."

The *Bangalore Examiner* gives the following somewhat harrowing account of the condition of the people in those parts :—"There can be no doubt that what was hitherto simple scarcity in this Province is fast ripening into down-right famine. On all sides, we have signs that there is no present prospect of the dearth diminishing. On the contrary, there is every reason to fear that the people will have to grapple, as best they may, with the grim monster, want, for months to come. The ryot, unable to feed himself and his family, is bringing his cattle for sale to the market, and parts with them for little or nothing so long as the proceeds can keep him and those dear to him alive for a little while longer. Poor people, who are burdened with children too young to work for their bread, are offering them for sale, on the piteous plea that it is quite out of their power to procure the common necessaries of life for them. What becomes of these helpless little lives can be easily surmised, for they do not long trouble a market in which there are no purchases. We have the best authority for stating that within the past six or seven weeks no less than fifteen dead bodies have been sent in from the outlying hamlets for *post mortem* examination at the Pettah Dispensary, and most of these have been pronounced to be the victims of starvation or of hard, indigestible, even poisonous food, eaten to satisfy the remorseless cravings of hunger. The other day we recorded the fact of a man coming in all the way from the country to the Pettah in search of food, and being so exhausted with hunger and fatigue, that he quietly laid himself down on the side of a road and died. The corpse, it might be remembered, was slung across a bamboo like any dead animal, and carried away. If such things happen in the capital of the Province, it is easy to infer what the sufferings of the unhappy poor must be in the districts—sufferings of which there is no record of any kind."

ANSWERS TO THE MAZAGON QUESTIONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—With your permission I will answer some of the questions "X" has asked respecting the persecution of the Christians at Mazagon.

1. Altamont Chapel was opened, I believe, for the convenience of members of St. Peter's Church living on or near Malabar Hill, who found the distance to Mazagon too great early on Sunday mornings for early communion.

2. No ; the minister of the district in which Altamont Chapel is being a missionary, it was hardly feasible he should be consulted about a ritualistic chapel.

3. After closing Mathurpacoady Chapel, it is very evident the Bishop considers himself fully empowered to do as he pleases.

4. Yes. By an assumption of power which that assumption can never give he is in his late act exercising a law which is lacking authority for its guide.

5. The Bishop is bound by oath to obey the Metropolitan of all India, but being appointed by the Secretary of State for India, I think Government is powerless in the matter, though they can and have decided in the case of Trinity Church. There is no parochial system in India.

6. Because one is Low Church and the other Ritualistic. No ; the head of a family who is looking on and seeing two of his children at their devotions, he interrupts one, turns him out of his house and shuts the door after him, and tells him not to come back again, but goes and fondly caresses the other, requesting him to be sure to remain where he is. Will they ?

7 and 8. Government still contributes towards the ministers of St. Peter's salary. So I believe does the P and O. Co. As I was passing St. Peter's some Sundays ago, I heard the remark passed 52 carriages and pairs, besides single horse conveyances, were those of dwellers at Mazagon.

9. There is no parochial system in India, or how could the Bishop have said he was guided principally by the legal lay representative of the parish when that personage lived 3 or 4 miles out of the district. The Government can and no doubt will interfere in the matter only of territorial jurisdiction.

10. Though the head of the Ecclesiastical Department, I think Government will not interfere with teachings and things done which have been pronounced illegal at home.

11. I expect they will only help to bring about true Churchmen's worse forebodings—disestablishment, or Rome.

12. Left at home or lost at Matheran.

13. It consists in being able to expand so far as to see in question the good done by the blessed reformers, while it touches the border lands of Romanism.

14. I suppose Ritualists won't like to hear it is themselves, but if it is not them, who s it Certainly not Evangelicals.

15. If they are not, they ought to be, not only at home but abroad also.

16. Yes ; it is a fact. A fact related by one connected with the St. John's Mission. His Lordship is an associate of St. John's Mission of which Rev. Page is the superior in the East.

17. Not at all ; that is for those who do not hold the peculiar tenets of Ritualism. I quite agree with the quotation of "W." We are tending sure and fast towards the most despicable of all earthly tyrannies, the rule of an earthly priest ; but as may have been already seen, there are those who do not intend to be bound hand and foot by priestcraft.

Respecting the remarks of "B. B." I can only say neither Rev. Deimler nor his chapel costs the State one pie, and yet disestablishment has taken effect at Mazagon with a vengeance, but perhaps it may not all end so quietly as was expected.

Mazagon, 30th Oct. SESOSTRIS.

HYMNEAL.—The *N. B. Advertiser and Ladies' Own Journal* has the following :—"A number of workmen being engaged in the restoration of a Ritualistic Church, one of them, ascending the pulpit, calls out—'I hereby publish the banns of matrimony between this Church and the Church of Rome.' 'I forbid the banns,' exclaims another workman. 'On what grounds' enquired he in the pulpit. 'Cos the parties be too near akin,' quoth the objector

DISESTABLISHMENT.—A PRACTICAL BEGINNING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—As one who agrees with your correspondent "B. B." on the question of disestablishment, and believing that we should be better served in the pulpit and pastorally if the Church were cast on its own resources, I would suggest that we make a practical beginning by urging the Bishop to decline all public money for the incidental expenses of the State Churches, which will be a more graceful act than to wait until Government withdraws these allowances. Let the Bishop then call upon the several congregations to make it a matter of conscience to double their offertory gifts, to meet those expenses, and thus wash our hands of what is neither right nor politic ; what is, indeed, a "shame and reproach," as another correspondent characterizes the taking of public money to sustain our Christian devotions. When I cast my eye upon the classes who frequent the Cathedral, I cannot doubt that my suggestion will be approved by them at least, and that they will readily wipe out the stain which now rests upon their honour and sincerity. If this self-denying ordinance be begun at the Cathedral, it will doubtless extend to all the other Churches, the Scotch Kirk as well. Z.

THE PRICKLY PEAR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—Allow me to ask what authority the writer in your paper of the 26th has for calling the prickly pear of the Deccan *Opuntia Vulgaris* ? This is undoubtedly the botanical name of the edible prickly pear of America and the south of Europe, and if any one could prove that the pest of the Deccan could, under any circumstance, produce a fruit like the large fleshy prickly pear sold at Gibraltar and other places, he would do some service. But the Deccan species is made quite distinct by all the botanists that I can at this moment quote and the fruits are quite unlike. Roxburgh called our prickly pear *Cactus Indicus*, and said he could not identify it with any opuntia up to that time described. Don, however, whose work was published about 1834, calls it *Opuntia Dillenii*, and Graham, Dalzell and Gibson have all named it so. Don gives 42 species of opuntia, and makes *Opuntia Vulgaris* and *Opuntia Dillenii* belong to two entirely diff-rent groups.

In calling the Deccan prickly pear "*the* Indian fig," there is a good deal of vagueness, for that is the English name of the whole opuntia genus. I should like to know also what is meant by a "lobed cactus," and by this being "twelfth in the classification of Linæus."—I am, &c. N.

October 29.

INDIAN NEWS-LETTER.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THAYETMO, BRITISH BURMA, 16TH OCT.

Last week was ushered in with a severe thunderstorm, which coming up from the south traversed this district in a north-westerly direction, rooting up occasional trees and sweeping some of the lighter native-built bamboo huts away as if they were feathers. For over two hours the storm raged in this vicinity with terrific violence. Sometimes the lightning played for several consecutive seconds at a time, in broad sheets illuminated with forked streaks, flashing in all the hues of the rainbow, whilst the thunder rolled and roared overhead, and the rain fell in torrents. Fortunately no loss of life or very material damage is reported, but few who witnessed it will forget the sublime grandeur of the storm in a hurry. A few showers have since fallen, at intervals, and the dew at night is particularly heavy. From out lying districts reports are more favourable, although in some places the outturn will be still below the mark. On Monday night last a fire broke out in a native village not far from the jail, but fortunately was got under with the loss of a few huts. Had there been a strong breeze at the time, the whole village must have gone.

Target-practice is progressing favourably though the misty mornings sometimes make it rather late before operations commence. It is premature as yet to give an opinion as to what effect the alterations in musketry regulations will have on averages, but most seem to anticipate a diminution in flukey scores and a corresponding advantage to really good shots. The practice here not being sufficiently advanced to give a fair illustration. The papers speak of the last Bangalore Rifle Meeting as a "success," but from private letters I should gather that it was not nearly up to the gathering of former years though graced by the presence of a Duke and Commander-in-Chief together with a goodly following of the upper ten thousand. There were good scores undoubtedly made, but the shooting and general standard was not equal to that of 1874 as a whole, whilst some dissatisfaction was felt at the prizes being served out through commanding officers instead of being made the occasion of a public distribution. Those in authority should look to this, as this meeting was really a great *omnium gatherum* for Southern India, and once its prestige begins to wane, it is very hard, indeed, to regain it.

A detachment consisting of one officer and 35 rank and file is under orders to proceed to Tonghoo, it is said, *via* Rangoon, though why the route across country cannot be followed does not appear. To go by steamer to Rangoon and thence by rail or in country boats to Tonghoo, takes over three weeks, whereas a party of sixty odd from H. M.'s 67th Regiment were moved (on a former occasion) by a new march route in ten days—certainly a much pleasanter and healthier way of travelling than cooped up in the small native craft for some seventeen or twenty days of poling upstream.

Our last Europe mail arrived on Friday, 13th inst., the one previous to it on the 2nd inst.,—only eleven days without any advices from your side of the peninsula. So you may judge how anxiously we are watching the development of the new railway, in blissful hopes that its completion may be the cause of bringing on a bi-weekly steamer service across the bay, if not more. But with the present rate of progress we may possibly anticipate this with the era of the twentieth century. The Deputy Judge Advocate General (Burma Division) still remains here pending the disposal of the prisoner in the case of homicide mentioned in former letters. The usual courts of enquiry have been held and court-martial applied for.

PERIPATETIC CHATTER FROM AGRA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

AGRA, 24TH OCT.

Since writing to you last, I have had placed in my hands an interesting little prospectus *re* "A Proposed Eurasian Association." As I have seen no notice of it in your journal, and as there is a large number of Eurasians in Bombay, some of whom may not have heard of such a movement, I shall summarize briefly three of its proposed objects.

1. Affording a good English education to children of deceased members ; also to the children of members who are in poor circumstances.

2. Assisting lads, entirely dependent on members, to enter upon industrial occupations, by apprenticing them in workshops, manufactories or to tradesmen.

3. Sending to England annually one or more young men (sons or others entirely dependent on members) who shall have acquitted themselves most creditably at the University examination in this country, to prosecute their studies there, in view to being qualified for the higher branches of the Indian Covenanted Services or to their joining one of the learned professions.

The association will be started at a public meeting of members to be held in Calcutta, when a board of management will be formed. Similar boards will be formed in Bombay and Madras should sufficient members join from those Presidencies. The subscription is fixed at Rs. 5 per annum in advance or annas 8 monthly.

Now that natives are being pitchforked into every available situation under a mistaken idea of economy, and the poorer classes of Europeans and Eurasians, whose forefathers shed their life's blood in conquering this land, are left to their own resources to find bread as well they may, and gradually to sink to a state bordering on loaferism, it is high time that some measures were adopted to ameliorate the condition of the Poor Whites. No doubt the association will meet with many difficulties, but I am sure all your readers will join with me in wishing it every success.

Our Dewalli festival was celebrated here last week and a more miserable attempt at illumination I have never seen. Although the natives here have capital facilities for display, almost all the facades of the houses in the city being similar in character, the majority of them have not the means as the wealthy Parsees and Borahs in Bombay who go in so heavily for the *tamasha*. By the way, is it not remarkable that none of the tribe of the Parsees are to be met here ? Till I arrived in Agra I always associated Parsee with abiquity, deeming the terms synonymic, but I find I was mistaken. A Parsee with his unique chapeau would be fêted here to his heart's contents as the Agra aborigines have not the slightest conception of what his like. Would you believe I was asked the other day by a rare gentleman if Sir David Sassoon was a Parsee ; not overflattering to Sir David, eh ? *En passant*, will not "H. W," the *Times of India* protegé, favour us with a visit ? He might on his return to Bombay treat us in that delectable journal to a few more disgusting stories *re* what he would have us believe takes place in a regimental mess. But it is probable that the next time he strolls, he will, to quote a schoolboy's saying, bite his head punched.

The adage, "All is not gold that glitters," has been fully exemplified lately at the cost of a few unfortunates. A certain contractor, whose gay equipage, &c., seemingly justified the general belief that he fared sumptuously every day and was well endowed with the good things of this life, has suddenly decamped from this station, having the bad taste not to issue his P. P. C. cards before leaving. His friends, to wit creditors, are naturally on the *qui vive* as to whither he has deported himself, but as rumour has it that he was last seen in Bombay, *en route* to New Zealand, they will probably have to wait long before they hear from him again.

The question, who is responsible for the vagaries of the Post Office ? should assuredly find a place in the next edition of the book entitled "Things not generally known." That there is a Gothamist at the helm of affairs in our local P. O. is evidenced by the fact that its latest notice states that registered letters are received up to 5 P.M. Now, the mail for Calcutta leaves at 4 40 P.M. and how letters posted at 5 o'clock are to be dispatched by that mail is known doubtless only to the aforesaid native of Gotham. I find it a nut too difficult to crack, but hope to hear that the mystery has been unravelled when the *Indian Charivari* has awarded its prize of Rs. 150 for the best conundrum. Doubtless a cheque for that amount will find its way into the sacred precincts of the Agra Post Office.

I find the rumour is correct that Captain Pye, Manager, E. S. Railway, does not return after the Railway Conference to his present duties. He leaves on the 15th proximo and will be entertained at a farewell dinner on the 13th proximo. *On dit* that one of the subjects to be brought under discussion at the Railway Conference in Calcutta will be the advisability of establishing in India a clearing house on similar principles to the one in London.

Quite an oil famine here at present. Kerosine is selling at Rs. 12 a tin, and as cocoanut is not to be had at all, castor oil is our only resource. The result—houses after dark in perpetual gloom.

BOMBAY.

GOVERNMENT WORKHOUSE.—There were six European vagrants in the Government workhouse yesterday.

THE SASSOON DOCK.—The Austrian Lloyd's s. s Juno entered the Sassoon Dock yesterday morning and commenced discharging at once.

H. M.'s HOUSE OF CORRECTION.—There were in all 308 prisoners in H. M.'s House of Correction yesterday. Of these 78 prisoners were under sentences by the High Court, 206 by the Magistrates of Police, 2 by the Court of Petty Sessions, 26 by Military Courts-martial and 1 by Naval Courts-martial. Of the prisoners 262 were natives and the remaining 46 Europeans.

H. M.'s COMMON JAIL.—There were in all 301 prisoners in H. M.'s Common Jail yesterday. On the criminal side there were 223 prisoners, including 9 women, of whom 46 were non-labour prisoners, and 177 for hard labour. On the civil side there were 78 prisoners, including 8 women. Of these latter 11 prisoners were under warrants from the High Court and 67 from the Small Causes Court.

CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.—Four cart-drivers, named Govind Narayen, Jairam Crushna, Boodia Khundoo, and Apps Govind were fined, the first two Rs. 3 and Rs. 4 respectively, and the other two Rs. 2 each, by Mr. Dosabhoy Framjee, at the Girgaum Police Court, for torturing their bullocks. They were charged at the instance of Mr. Nutty, an agent to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

CRICKET.—A match was played yesterday between the John Connon High School and the 1-6th Royal Artillery, which resulted in a victory for the former by 8 runs. The J. C. H. S. won the toss and went to the wickets which they resigned after making a score of 94, H. Pritchard (b Stone) contributing 33 out of that number. The R. A. then followed and did not leave the field until they had made 91, their best man being Rundall, who stood "35, not out," when the J. C. Club went in for their 2nd innings, in which they added 47, making a grand total of 141. The R. A. then followed and lost the game with a total score of 134.

KIDNAPPING AND THEFT.—A Mahomedan woman, named Beesun, appeared yesterday before Mr. Dosabhoy Framjee, at the Girgaum Police Court, and obtained a warrant for the arrest of Chand Imambux, whom she charged under section 361 of the Indian Penal Code with kidnapping Suckeena, girl, her daughter, under the age of 16 years, from her lawful guardianship, and also with theft of Rs. 25 in cash. The prosecutrix alleges that this occurrence took place about a month and a half ago, at which time she made a complaint of the matter to the police, but now she had been informed that the accused and her daughter are secreting themselves in a house at Bhewndy.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—A Coroner's inquest was held yesterday at the G. T. Hospital on view of the body of Cadu-bux. Deceased was a day labourer employed on board the steamship Canara, and he met with an accident on the 27th instant on board that vessel, it is supposed, by having accidentally fallen into the hold while crossing the hatchway when a bale of cotton was being lowered down. He fell into the hold, a depth 30 feet, and sustained a severe fracture of the skull. Deceased died at the above hospital on Sunday morning from the effects of the injuries he had sustained. The following verdict was returned by the jury :—"That the death of the deceased was caused by fracture of the skull, the result of a fall into the hold of the steamship Canara, but under what circumstances he fell, there is no evidence."

A CASE OF GRIEVOUS ASSAULT.—Yesterday, at the Girgaum Police Court, a Mahomedan, named Cassum Sulliman, was charged with committing a grievous assault against the person of Suckeena, woman. His Worship, after taking the evidence of the prosecutrix, and another female witness, adjourned the further hearing of the case to the 6th proximo, the prisoner being remanded to jail. The evidence of the prosecutrix went to show that on a Saturday, about 15 or 16 days ago, the prisoner, in whose keeping she was for the last eight months, complained of her misconduct, and at the same time assaulted her by placing a hot shovel on her thighs and stomach, &c. When she endeavoured to rescue herself from this act of cruelty inflicted by the prisoner, he gagged her mouth and continued to burn her with the hot shovel. Subsequently she went to her sister's house and thence to the hospital, from which place she was discharged but three days ago. She stated that she was still suffering great pain and was unable to follow her daily occupation.

ADVICE GRATIS.—The *Bombay Guardian* can write good sense occasionally, but gets off the line very frequently. Alluding to the notice we took of its strange remark a week ago that Christians ought not go to see the Dewalee *butties*, and to which we gave the appropriate heading, "Stuff and Nonsense," the *Guardian* of Saturday last says :—"In last week's issue we had a remark somewhat to that effect, in reference to the Dewallee, and the *Bombay Gazette* has done us the honour to cite it under the elegant heading 'Stuff and Nonsense.' We knew when we wrote it that it would elicit some such expression. Our appeal lies from Philip drunk to Philip sober, from a press beclouded by the mists of Anglo Indian worldliness, to a press enlightened as to the sacredness of its vocation and the claims of imperishable truth." It is a pity that the *Guardian*, which had sense enough to see the foolishness of the remark made in that particular paragraph, did not surpress it altogether. We shall not vex our contemporary, perhaps, by replying partly in his own words, "our appeal lies from Philip drunk to Philip sober," from senseless religious fervour to calm and rational reflection.

CHOLERA.—We are sorry to learn that cholera has appeared at Sholapore, and at some of the Ahmednuggur and Sattara districts. Pestilence is sure to follow in the wake of famine. Steps should be taken to bring in sufficient food into Poona both for man and for beast, otherwise the pestilence will surely come upon us.—*Deccan Herald.*

THE S. S. DAGMAR.

We understand that yesterday Captain Percy James, R. N., who recently took command of the turret-ships Abyssinia and Magdala, took command of H. M. S. Dagmar.

ADDITIONAL PASSENGERS BY THE HOMEWARD MAIL.

THE P. & O. CO.'S S. S. THIBET, Captain N. Steward, sailed yesterday for Aden and Suez with the English mails and the following additional passengers :—

For Southampton.—Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Cooke and four children, and Lieut. W. J. Bird.

For Suez.—Col. J. F. Richardson.

ELPHINSTONE SPINNING AND WEAVING COMPANY.

YESTERDAY a meeting of the shareholders of this company, which has been in liquidation, was held at its registered office, 8, Elphinstone Circle, when the liquidator, Mr. Hormusjee Nowrojee Saklatwalla, laid before the shareholders his accounts, showing the manner in which the liquidation had been conducted and the property of the company disposed of. After the liquidator had read his report, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted :—

Proposed by Mr. Tapidas Vurjdas, and seconded by Mr. Ahmedbhoy Hubibhoy, That this meeting is of opinion that the affairs of the company have been finally, fully, and satisfactorily wound up ; that the unclaimed dividends, amounting to Rs. 443-14-5, be retained by Mr. H. N. Saklatwalla until claimed by the shareholders or their representatives, and be then paid by him ; that the cash balance in the hands of the liquidator, Rs. 297-10-1, being too small an amount for distribution, be forwarded to the secretaries of the committee for the relief of the famine districts in the Deccan ; and that the company be considered as dissolved.

Proposed by Mr. Muncherjee Nowrojee Banaji, and seconded by Mr. Cassumbhoy Dharamsey, That the books, accounts, vouchers, and papers of the company be deposited with Mr. H. N. Saklatwalla, who has kindly undertaken to keep them in his charge.

Proposed by Mr. Ardaser Eduljee Chinoy, and seconded by Mr. Rahimbhoy Abdinbhoy, That the best thanks of the shareholders are due to the liquidator for getting the affairs of the company satisfactorily wound up and the several claims settled in the interest of the company.

The meeting then dispersed.

BROACH MILLS COMPANY.

An ordinary general meeting of the shareholders of the Broach Mills Company was held yesterday at its registered office, Meadow Street, to receive the directors' report and accounts, to elect directors, appoint auditors, and fix their remuneration. Captain John Dixon was in the chair. The notice convening the meeting and the directors' report being read, the following resolutions were unanimously carried :—

Proposed by the Chairman, and seconded by Mr. Pestonjee Darashah, That the report of the directors and the audited statement of accounts for the year ending 30th June 1876 be adopted and passed.

Proposed by Mr. Pestonjee Kavasjee, and seconded by Mr. Bajorjee Hormusjee Hadda, That Messrs. John Dixon and Dorabjee Framjee Panday, directors now retiring by rotation, be re-elected.

Proposed by Mr. Muttonjee Muncherjee Colah, and seconded by Mr. Dhunjeebhoy Cowasjee Patel, That the nomination of Mr. Cursetjee Manockjee Setna as a director in the place of Mr. Framjee Jamsetjee Bottleboy, resigned, be confirmed.

Proposed by Mr. Tribhovundass Nathoobhoy, and seconded by Mr. Cursetjee Manockjee Setna, That Messrs. Burjorjee Muncherjee Wadia and Cooverjee Rustomjee Mody be appointed auditors of the company's accounts for the ensuing year at a remuneration of Rs. 150 each.

Proposed by Mr. Tribhovundass Nathoobhoy, and seconded by Mr. Pestonjee Darashah, That a vote of thanks be passed to the Agents, Messrs. Merwanjee Framjee Panday and Co., for their able management of the company's affairs.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the proceedings.

THE NUISANCE ON THE BYCULLA FLATS.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS AGAINST THE MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONER.

Mr. Cleveland, solicitor, attended at the Fort Police Court, yesterday afternoon, and applied for a summons against the Municipal Commissioner, for permitting filth to accumulate on the Byculla Flats, to vitiate the air and endanger the lives of the inhabitants of the neighbourhood. Mr. Cleveland quoted a number of sections with the object of showing that the Municipal Commissioner was bound to provide for the removal of sewage matter out of the town, and that by neglecting to do so he rendered himself liable to a fine of Rs. 500. The Magistrate said the matter came under the jurisdiction of Mr. Dosabhoy Framjee, and it would be better that Mr. Cleveland should transfer his application before that gentleman.

Mr. Cleveland urged that Mr. Dosabhoy Framjee was a member of the Town Council, and might not care to act in the matter. For anything he knew, the Town Council might be more to blame than anybody else. He did not know whether Mr. Cooper, the Senior Magistrate, would like to take a part in the matter either, because he had heard that Mr. Cooper had been driven away from Byculla through this nuisance, which was of a very pronounced and objectionable character. Byculla was a thickly populated locality and the inhabitants were very much troubled by the nuisance.

The Magistrate said he would like to take time to consider the matter, and Mr. Cleveland withdrew, saying he would renew his application this morning.

SERVICE OF SONG.

The second service of song was held on Thursday evening, the 26th instant, at the Dockyard Road Hall, situated at the top of the hill leading to Mazagon Bunder, at present occupied by the Zenana Mission. There were present upwards of 400 persons—Christians of all denominations and converts.

The proceedings of the service of song commenced with prayer offered by the Revd. T. K. Weatherhead, of the Church Missionary Society, followed by an introductory address by Dr. W. A. Fairbridge, explaining the object of this service of song which he said was not to be considered as a concert or even a concert of sacred song, but as a form of sacred worship to bring lost sinners into the fold of Jesus. Then followed the first hymn in the programme, "Tell me the old, old story," during the congregation and the choir which was composed of ten ladies and nine gentlemen with an harmonium accompaniment presided over by Miss Malloch, of the Zenana Mission. Then followed a few remarks from Dr. Partridge relative to the second hymn in the programme of "A Sinner Forgiven" (a solo), sung by that gentleman, and at its conclusion the reading of the programme at the hands of each of the congregation might possibly be the signs of approbation with which the song was received. The Revd. Mr. Macpherson, of St. Andrew's Church, then addressed the meeting. His discourse was relative to the sinners' faith in Jesus, ascribing their conquest to the Lamb and their triumph to His death, followed by the hymn, "I Give my sins to the wings of faith," also sung by Miss Malloch, and joined in chorus by the full choir. Then followed the duet "It passeth knowledge that dear love of thine," sung by Miss Malloch and Miss Fallon, one of the ladies of the choir. This duet was exquisitely rendered. The Rev. Mr. Small then delivered an address which was followed by the full hymn "I hear thy welcome voice," sung by the congregation and choir ; then followed introductory remarks by Dr. Partridge preceding the hymns, "Oh to be nothing," and "Sweet by and by." The first of these was a duet and chorus, beautifully rendered by Miss Malloch and Miss Fallon, joined in chorus by the choir, and the latter by the full choir. The Revd. Mr. Bowen, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, next delivered a short address which was followed by the full choir singing the hymn, "Whosoever will may come," after which Dr Partridge commented on the subject of the next hymn that was sung by the choir, "The Prodigal Child," which ran thus :—"I Come home, come home ye who are weary at heart." Afterwards the whole congregation were asked by Dr. W. P. Partridge to devote a few moments in silent prayer which was acceded to. Then followed the hymn, sung by the full choir in a soft and melodious tone, "There are angels hovering round" to carry the tidings home, and the service was brought to a close by prayer offered by Dr. Partridge, and the usual benediction delivered by the same gentleman.

BOMBAY PORT TRUST.

EXCERPTS from the proceedings of a meeting of the Trustees of the port of Bombay held on the 26th instant.

Read letter from G. A. Kittredge, Esquire, dated 21st October, giving notice that he would propose at Trustees' meeting that the Traffic Manager be instructed to prepare weekly a statement of the land rented by him with names of parties and rates of rent, such statements to be laid on the table at Trustees' meetings.

Read memo. by the Traffic Manager, dated 23rd October, intimating that statements of ground let on monthly tenancy can be furnished each week, but that to give details of "sundry ground rents" which include ground et for even a day or two would cause great trouble.

Read memo. from Mr. Kittredge, stating that it is only monthly tenants he refers to.

RESOLUTION—A weekly return of the land let out on monthly tenure with the rate of rent and names of tenants should be furnished by the Traffic Manager.

Read letter from the Traffic Manager, dated 24th October, reporting for the Trustees' approval the arrangement he has made with the hay dealers for occupation of land at Malet Bunder during the ensuing season. It is that they pay Rs. 150 per hay stack, (occupying an area of 2,100 square feet) per annum, and that they pay Rs. 7 per 500 square feet per mensem for land if occupied by bazaar for 8 months, and Rs. 6 per mensem if occupied for a year. He also points out that the want of a sufficient supply of water is felt by the merchants.

RESOLUTION—The arrangement made by the Traffic Manager is approved.

Read letter from the Traffic Manager, dated 19th October, recommending the appointment, as a temporary measure, of 3 extra peons at Rs. 10 per mensem each for the protection of town duty revenue at Mahim and Sion.

RESOLUTION—Sanctioned.

The following was amongst the papers laid on the table :—

PILOTAGE STATEMENT WEEK TO 24TH OCTOBER.

12 Vessels piloted into harbour.
13 „ „ out of „
4 „ transported.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

GOVERNMENT OBSERVATORY, COLABA.

BOMBAY, 29th October 1876.

*Means of observations taken at 6

defendants supplied them with money to purchase cotton on orders received from Bombay : Drennan & Co. then drew upon Bombay in favour of defendants' firm with documents attached.

On the other hand, one of the defendants, while admitting that he executed the policy of insurance, averred that he was in no way liable under it to the plaintiff, with whom he had no communication whatsoever in regard to the policy either before or at the time of its execution, and of whose alleged interests in the cotton under the policy he had no notice or knowledge until shortly before the institution of the suit. Before receiving notice of the plaintiff's alleged interest in the cotton, the defendants had adjusted their liability under it in their account with Drennan & Co., named in the policy, who also had paid the premium, and whom alone they deemed to be interested in the cotton insured with them.

The Court considered that Drennan & Co. were vendors of the cotton, and were interested in it at the time of its loss. Rs. 9,000 was the price to be paid for the cotton, deliverable in Bombay, free of all charges. The relation between Blaesbeck and Drennan was not that of principal and agent. The Court also held that it had been proved that the custom of Dhollera was that these policies were not transferable, and that the payment to Drennan was a good payment according to the custom. That there was another class of policy in vogue at Dholleras showed it was a matter of opinion which form of policy the insurer would take. The decree of the lower Court in favour of the plaintiff was reversed.

The attention of your Committee was particularly directed to this case, by a member of the Chamber in a communication which they circulated among members for their information, warning them at the same time against insuring "according to the custom of Dhollera," or accepting or advancing upon such policies, and reminding them that another class of policy was obtainable at Dholleras.

THE COTTON FRAUDS ACT.

On the 28th of February last, a letter was received from the Bombay Government enclosing a copy of Lord Salisbury's despatch No. 5, of the 27th January, 1876, in which his Lordship announced that after a careful consideration of the material, dated 6th October, 1875, referred to in last year's report, he saw nothing in the points therein urged to induce him to modify his decision that the Act should be amended ; that it was desirable that it should be clearly understood that the Act was to be maintained for the present, and that it could be rendered effective for its purpose ; but he desired His Excellency the Governor of Bombay in Council at the same time to consider whether the establishment might not be placed on a less expensive footing (in which case some relief might be given to the trade) without in any way interfering with the efficient working of the Act, which must be the primary object to be kept in view.

It will be remembered that the majority of the Commissioners appointed to enquire into the working of the Act recommended that it should not be repealed but only placed in abeyance, because if the loss of the cotton export trade were to result from its repeal, the loss would be nothing short of a national calamity ; while Mr. Ravenscroft, in his dissent, considered it to be a matter of imperial importance to maintain the Act in order to foster and aid the cotton trade of Western India In either case the reasons for only placing the Act in abeyance, or for maintaining it, were based chiefly on imperial grounds, and the cost of the establishment for carrying out the objects of the Act ought therefore, your Committee considered, to be borne by the Imperial Exchequer, and not by the trade which derived no benefit from it.

With regard to Lord Salisbury's desire that the Cotton Frauds establishment should be placed on a less expensive footing, your Committee drew His Excellency's attention to the Chamber's letter No 261, dated 25th October, 1873, —the remarks in which were equally applicable to the present time,—containing a distinct expression of opinion that the Inspector-in-Chief and his staff were useless in the Presidency Town, and recommending that the office of Inspector-in-Chief be abolished, and the Bombay staff paid off or transferred to the cotton-growing districts.

The wishes of H. M.'s Secretary of State for India are by the orders of His Excellency the Governor in Council now being carried out, and a draft of a new Bill has been prepared and permission given to introduce it into the Legislative Council.

THE FOUR PER CENT. LOAN OF FOUR MILLIONS STERLING ISSUED IN LONDON IN APRIL LAST.

In the Budget of the Government of India for the year 1876-77, published 31st March, 1876, it was announced that a loan of £2 640,000 would be borrowed by Her Majesty's Secretary of S ate in England, but on the 12th April—twelve days only after the publication of the Budget—tenders were invited in London for a loan of four millions sterling redeemable at par after October, 1888, on a year's notice. The announcement of this sudden change in the intentions and action of Government was followed by a violent disturbance in the money market. The premium on Sterling Exchange, which had a rising tendency, immediately fell about ¼ per cent., and mercantile and banking operations were very seriously interfered with by the prevailing uncertainty as to the extent to which it might now be intended to provide the Home Treasury with funds by loans raised in England. The Committee represented what had occurred to the Government of India and the Secretary of State, respectfully submitting that any serious deviation from the declared financial scheme of the Government of India was only justified by extreme emergency, as it resulted in embarrassment to all mercantile interests, and gave trade an unsound, speculative, character.

The Government of India courteously explained that the larger sum was borrowed because the Secretary of State had not only to consider the expenditure of the year 1876-77 as estimated, but also because it was necessary to provide for the deficiency in the amount obtained by the Home Treasury for bills on India in the last months of the year 1875-76, and any further deficiency that, with reference to the uncertain state of the exchanges and of the demand for bills, might arise in the current financial year 1876-77.

FAREWELL ADDRESS TO LORD NORTHBROOK.

Your Committee sent an address, in the name of the Chamber, to Lord Northbrook on the occasion of his retirement from the high office of Viceroy and Governor General of India, expressing the gratitude of the Chamber for the benefits conferred on India under the liberal and enlightened commercial policy which had so pre-eminently distinguished his Lordship's Government. The address, and his Lordship's reply thereto, will be found in the appendices to this report.

IMPORT DUTIES ON COTTON PIECE GOODS AND YARNS.

Your Committee were favoured with a copy of an interesting letter addressed by the Hon. Donald Graham to the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Viceroy, in which he dwells more particularly on the vast practicability of drawing a line of distinction between the higher classes of cloths, on the one hand, which contribute to the Customs' revenue, without suffering from the competition of local manufactures, and, on the other, the lower classes which for reason of small value principally contribute only in a trifling degree to the revenue, and against which the duties tend to act injuriously. The letter, and the table referred to therein, will be found in the appendices.

RAILWAY CONFERENCE IN CALCUTTA.

The Government of India have deemed it advisable to invite representatives from all the Guaranteed and State Railways in India and Burmah, and from the Consulting Engineers' Department of the three Presidencies, to a Conference to be held in Calcutta, probably some time in January next, for the purpose of discussing certain important questions affecting Railways, and with a view to aid the Government of India in coming to a right conclusion in regard to them. A detailed list of the enquiries on each of the subjects to be discussed will be circulated for information hereafter, when the date of the assembly of the proposed Conference can be more definitely fixed than it can be at present. Delegates from the Chamber of Commerce, and from the leading mercantile, European and Native, of the principal towns, are invited to attend the proposed Conference, and to submit papers to be read at it.

THE CONSUL AND VICE-CONSUL AT JEDDAH, AND THE PILGRIM PASSENGER TRADE.

On the 6th of June last a letter was received by the Chamber, from Hajee Abdoolraman Allaruka, along with printed copies of the documents therein referred to, complaining of the conduct of the Consul and Vice-Consul at Jeddah. The allegations made in these documents seemed to be well substantiated, and to disclose an abuse of authority on the part of the Consul and Vice-Consul which ought to be put a stop to. It appeared to your Committee that the case was one eminently requiring investigation, and they therefore forwarded all the papers through Government to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, with an expression of their hope that his Lordship would be pleased to order an enquiry to be instituted into the charges.

Your Committee also availed themselves of the opportunity of urging upon his Lordship's consideration whether it was not desirable that the Consul and Vice-Consul at Jeddah should be prohibited from engaging in any kind of trade or mercantile dealings ; and they suggested that the permission apparently accorded to the Consul to engage in mercantile transactions be withdrawn.

EXPEDIENCY OF SUBSTITUTING MINERAL FOR VEGETABLE OIL IN LIGHTHOUSES IN INDIA.

The question of the expediency of substituting mineral for vegetable oil in Lighthouses in India was referred by Government to the Chamber for its opinion. From the information which your Committee collected on the subject they considered that it would not be safe to use mineral oil in Light-houses in this country on account of the great heat to which the oil would be exposed, and the consequent danger of explosion. They were, moreover, of opinion that when to the ordinary cost of kerosine oil was added the cost incurred in refining the oil to vaporise only at high temperature there would, apart from the danger, be little or no economical advantage in using mineral oil.

DECISION IN H. B. M.'S COURT AT YOKOHAMA NECESSITATING "FREE" CONSIGNMENTS OF CARGO BEING PROTECTED BY POWERS OF ATTORNEY.

The Yokohama Chamber of Commerce forwarded for the information of the members of this Chamber a pamphlet giving the particulars of an action at law brought in H. B. M.'s Court there by Messrs. Malcom Willcox & Co. against the owners of the British ship Cathaya, for damage done to cargo consigned to them for sale by the shippers per Cathaya, the bills of lading for which were made out for delivery to "order," and were endorsed in the regular manner to them. The petition of claim was framed under Act 19 Vict., Cap. 111, which gives to the endorsee of a bill of lading to whom the property in the goods passes by reason of such endorsement, all the same rights of action upon the contract of carriage made and evidenced by the bill of lading as the shipper or the person who made the contract with the carrier. In the body of the bill of lading it was stated that freight in full was to be paid before delivery, which was done. The defendants contended that it was necessary to show that the plaintiffs, the endorsees of the bill of lading, had given value for the bill, and also that the ownership of the cargo had vested in them and had ceased to be the property of the shipper, which, as the goods were a "free" consignment, the plaintiffs were unable to do. The Judge admitted the objection and allowed a non-suit.

The fact of the plaintiffs having paid freight in Yokohama did not constitute an interest in the goods, and, even if such had been allowed, it would not have affected the principle laid down by the Judge inasmuch as freight is frequently paid before shipment.

The Yokohama Chamber, in forwarding this pamphlet, was desirous at the same time of eliciting information on the subject of the position of consignors and consignees generally, and more particularly of ascertaining whether a decision had been given in any similar case in other Courts which coincided with the ruling of the Judge of the Yokohama Court. Your Committee replied that it was the custom for consignees in Bombay to claim and recover compensation for damage to cargo, on behalf of the consignors, and without necessarily having property in it themselves ; but they were not aware that the right to such claim had ever been raised in the Courts here, which, on the other hand, had, they believed, always allowed the right of the consignees to sue. Whether, however, the Court would, if the point were raised, support this custom was another question which the Committee were unable to answer.

CUSTOM HOUSE ORDER REQUIRING THE WEIGHTS OF COTTON MANUFACTURES IMPORTED AND EXPORTED TO BE GIVEN IN IMPORT PRIVATE MANIFESTS AND EXPORT SHIPPING BILLS.

The Commissioner of Customs, on 10th July last, forwarded to the Chamber a letter from the Government of India to the Government of Bombay, requesting that arrangements might be made at all Custom-houses to exhibit in all monthly and annual accounts of trade and navigation furnished to the Government of India, and locally published, the weight in lbs. of each separate denomination of cotton manufactures imported and exported, European and Native, in addition to the quantity in yards, from 1st April last ; and he desired the Chamber to circulate it among the mercantile community with a view to immediate effect being given to the instructions therein contained. The Commissioner also issued a departmental order, dated 28th July, that importers and exporters should be requested to give this additional information in their import private manifests and export shipping bills in future. The reason assigned by the Government of India for requiring this information was that it had been found necessary to obtain and record it in order to admit of satisfactory comparison between the returns of the sea-borne trade and those of inland trade, that is to say, across the frontier and between the various provinces.

Several representations were received from members on the subject, and your Committee addressed a letter to the Commissioner showing the inexpediency of this order being enforced on the ground that it would give great trouble, and cause considerable loss to importers, and that it would be unsatisfactory for the purpose of comparison in the movements of goods as was intended. If, however, the Government of India considered the object it had in view to be of such importance as to overrule the considerations advanced, the Committee hoped that the order might not be enforced for four months, so that the weight of all descriptions might be entered in the invoices before shipment, and they further suggested that the order be advertised in the newspapers for the information of the mercantile community, and also that it be advertised extensively in London, Manchester, Glasgow, and other cotton manufacturing towns. The Government of India having ascertained that the instructions given for the record at all Custom-houses of the weight of cotton piece-goods could not expediently be carried into effect at present, requested that no action might now be taken on them.

WATER SUPPLIED TO THE SHIPPING.

The correspondence which passed last year between the Chamber and the Municipal Commissioner on the subject of the impurity of the water supplied to the shipping from the pipe which discharges at the Carnac Bunder, led to the appointment of a joint Committee by the Municipality and the Port Trust for the selection of another site. It was agreed that a 14-inch water-main pipe should be laid at Masgon Bunder, as the most suitable Bunder for the purpose of supplying the shipping in the harbour.

A protest against this proposal, signed by the captains of 19th vessels, was sent to the Chamber, on the ground that it would greatly inconvenience the majority of the shipmasters visiting the Port, the distance being a mile further away from the shipping than the present site, and suggesting that, instead of taking the pipe to Mazagon, it should be brought down to Mody Bay,—a central position for all ships and steamers.

Your Committee, however, concurred with the Municipality and the Port Trust that the Mazagon Bunder was the most suitable place at which to lay the water pipe to supply the shipping.

NEW TREATY OF COMMERCE WITH FRANCE.

A copy of a despatch from the Secretary of State for India to the Government of India, dated 12th April last, giving cover to a communication from the Foreign Office regarding the representations it would be desirable to make in the interests of India to the French Government in the approaching negotiations for a new Treaty of Commerce between the United Kingdom and France, was forwarded to the Chamber with a request that it would favour Government with an expression of its views on the subject. A Special Committee, composed of Messrs. H. Maxwell, Mowat, Roux, P. Fachiri, Melli, and Thacker, was appointed to consider the subject, and their report was adopted. The Special Committee recommended that efforts should be made to obtain a reduction of the import duty on coffee, which amounted to about 70 per cent. of the value of the article and particularly that the *surtaxe d'entrepot* on raw wool should be abolished ; and this article placed on the same footing with Australian wool which is exempted from the payment of the surtax. A surtax, generally at the rate of 3 francs per 100 kilogrammes, is imposed on all products of "extra European" origin imported *des entrepots d'Europe*, except on cotton, flax, hemp, jute, raw silk, and Australian wool They recommended that every effort should be made to obtain from the French Government the abolition of the *surtaxe des entrepots* on all articles of Indian produce or manufacture which was sufficiently high to be, in many cases, prohibitory. They further recommended that the Government of India should remonstrate against the re-imposition of the *surtaxe de pavillon*, which was now contemplated by the French Government ; that efforts should be made to obtain the important concession that Indian cotton and other manufactures should be allowed to enter into French Eastern Possessions on the same terms as English manufactures ; and, finally, as the concessions asked for in the admission of the products of India into France, and of Indian manufactures into French Eastern Possessions, could only be obtained from the Government of France by concessions being reciprocated by the Government of India to the admission of French products into India, that the products of France should be received into India on the most favourable terms.

NEW PILOTAGE RULES.

These rules, proposed by the Port Trustees, were forwarded by Government to the Chamber, in January last, for review and opinion. The rules were circulated among members, and were generally approved by them. The scale of remuneration which, it was calculated, the proposed changes would give to the pilots, was considered fair, and sufficiently liberal to secure efficiency. The Chamber, however, strongly objected to the practice which obtained of pilots receiving gratuities from masters of vessels or others, and recommended that an addition should be made to Rule 17 to the effect that any pilot proved to have taken any gratuity should incur a penalty of double the amount which should be deducted by the Port Trustees from his monthly settlement.

STOWAGE OF CARGO IN THE COAL BUNKERS OF STEAMERS.

A letter from the Political Resident at Aden to the Government of Bombay, and a report thereon by the Superintendent of Marine, on the subject of prohibiting the stowage of cargo in the coal bunkers of steamers, were forwarded by Government for an expression of the views of the Chamber thereon. Your Committee replied that it was not illegal to stow cargo in any part of a steamer measured for registered tonnage, and cross bunkers were as a rule so registered. The coal in bunkers which are built above, or at the side of boilers or engines, often ignites, but into such spaces your Committee questioned if cargo was ever stowed in any vessel ; generally speaking it would be impossible to get cargo into such spaces. The other coal bunkers in most steamers are much the same as the holds. In very large steamers, they are parts of the hold divided by bulkheads into spaces of 200 or 400 tons, and are used either for cargo or coals according to the nature of the voyage.

DETENTIONS OF THE ENGLISH MAILS.

On the failure of the London Post Office to despatch the whole of the Indian Mails of the 24th December last, the Postmaster-General in Bombay, published an explanatory memorandum that this was due to the enormous pressure of business on the night of the 24th December, Christmas eve, which caused many letters for the Colonies, for China and for India, to be left behind. Although the public had every reason to be satisfied with the thorough efficiency of the London Post Office, and although your Committee believed that no portion of the mail would have been kept back except from extreme necessity, yet, as such an occurrence caused very great inconvenience, particularly to foreign communities whose postal communications were unfrequent, or conducted only after considerable intervals of time, they represented to H. M.'s Postmaster General that such communities should have the preference, and that when similar cases happened in future, the local mails should give place to the Eastern mail which left only once a week. The Postmaster General replied that he exceedingly regretted the delay which had occurred, and that he would endeavour to anticipate, so far as the Post Office could, any future occurrence of the same kind.

The Manchester mail of the 14th July was also detained. The Postmaster in notifying this detention merely remarked that it was accidental, and that the letters would leave London by the following mail ; and, on being applied to, he stated that no explanation had been received from the London Post Office as to the cause of the detention. Your Committee thereupon addressed the Postmaster General expressing their regret that after so short an interval another detention should have incurred causing as it did on the previous occasion, on Christmas eve, very great inconvenience, and hoping that arrangements would be made to prevent the occurrence from again happening,—to which a reply has been received that the letters were accidentally left behind, and that the Chamber may rest assured that every endeavour will be used to prevent a further similar occurrence.

LIVERPOOL STANDARD SAMPLES.

The cotton business in Bombay is now, to a great extent, worked on classifications based upon the Liverpool standard samples. Most of the firms in Bombay have their own working standards, but these vary considerably, and, consequently, when questions of quality arise, it is most difficult at times to settle them satisfactorily, owing to the diversity of individual ideas of classification. With the view of removing this difficulty, your Committee procured from the Liverpool Cotton Brokers' Association standard samples of the different classifications of Dhollera, Oomrawtee, Higunghat, Machine-ginned Broach, Saw-ginned Dharwar, Comptah, and Veravul, to be kept in the rooms of the Chamber for reference. The samples arrived in the beginning of June ; but as your Committee feared that this climate during the S. W. Monsoon would affect the samples, they have asked the Association to supply them with fresh ones despatched so as to reach Bombay in October or November.

FEES ON TRANSHIPMENT OF GOODS.

Your Committee on enquiry into this subject found that, since the levying of the transhipment fee of two annas per package, a great quantity of its transhipment business had left Bombay. The important traffic of the P. and O. Company, which used to be transhipped at Bombay was now, in order to avoid the payment of this fee, all transhipped at Galle, where there was a heavy sea, and which, in other respects, was an inconvenient port for transhipment. The fee on the transhipment of opium was Rs. 50 per chest of 140 lbs. ; and, in order to save this fee, all the Persian Gulf opium, which did not go direct to China, was sent by the distant and circuitous way of Suez. Moreover, not only had the transhipment trade of this Port not increased as it ought to have done, but the trade would have expanded to more than double its present magnitude, but for the transhipment fees which were imposed. It was of great importance that every facility should be given for the transhipment of goods, and that the trade thereof should be fostered and encouraged, for it brought so much more shipping to the Port, and with it the attendant advantages of an increase of business ; but such encouragement was in the highest degree necessary to the Port of Bombay, whose spacious and well-protected harbour, and convenient situation, admirably adopted it for the transhipment of goods passing between the East and West. For these reasons, and considering that the total revenue derived from transhipment fees, in the eight months from 1st August, 1875, to 31st March, 1876, amounted to Rs. 1,539-8-0 only or Rs. 192-7-0 per month, your Committee have forwarded a memorial to the Government of India praying that the obstruction complained of be removed, and that no fees be henceforth levied on the transhipment of goods in the Harbour of Bombay.

THE NEW STEAM BOILER INSPECTION BILL.

The Bill to amend the law for the periodical inspection, and the management by competent engineers, of steam boilers, and prime-movers attached thereto in certain parts of the Presidency of Bombay, which it was proposed to introduce into the Legislative Council of this Governor of Bombay, was forwarded to the Chamber with a request that Government might be favoured with an opinion on its provisions. The objects and reasons stated for the introduction of this measure were as follows :—

1. That the fees leviable under Bombay Act V. of 1873 (and these amount to the exorbitant charge of Rs. 60 per Boiler) were found not to yield sufficient revenue to enable Government to provide efficiently for giving effect to the requirements of the Act.

2. That there was no provision in Bombay Act V. of 1873 for checking the working of boilers and prime-movers at a higher pressure than that allowed by the Inspector's certificate.

3. That the examiners appointed under Section 16 had considered that efficient service merely, without any personal test of the candidate's qualifications, was not a safe ground upon which to award a certificate of competency as engineer.

4. That the Act should be made applicable to *all* steam boilers, and not only to those of which the prime-movers were of more than ten horse-power nominal.

Your Committee, having collected a great deal of information on the subject, submitted their opinion to Government expressing their deep regret that legislation of this exceptional kind should ever, to such an extent, have been resorted to, and particularly that Government should, without any just cause whatever, be anxious to introduce a measure, the sole aims of which appeared to be to unnecessarily impose additional restrictions on the industries of this Presidency, and to increase the fees in which the various factories were already mulcted for the maintenance of the Inspectory and his establishment. The object of this kind of legislation was to guard against danger to human life, but it was only from explosions of boilers, that accidents dangerous to human life occurred. Your Committee were unwilling to oppose the measure in so far as it was calculated to prevent such accidents, and that portion of the proposed Bill which localized only the inspection of boilers had therefore their approval. But the inspection need not necessarily be conducted by a Government inspector, and, as it was always desirable that Government should obtain as far as possible from any interference with the manufactures of the country, your Committee recommended that Government should proceed no further than to lay down certain broad principles, leaving these to be carried out by the Millowners' Association, if that body would undertake to introduce an efficient and economical system which might be made subject to the approval of Government. Your Committee urged this point upon Government in their first communication, but the disclosures which were subsequently made at a recent trial in the High Court showed conclusively, in their opinion, that it was very desirable that there should not be a Government establishment for the inspection of boilers, and that the inspector should be independent. There are private engineers perfectly competent who would, if appointed by Government, be glad to undertake the work for a small fee for each boiler ; and your Committee deemed it to be their duty to again press the point on the attention of Government. There was, however, no ground for hope of their interference in regard to engines or prime-movers or to the qualifications of persons placed in charge of boilers or engines ; and your Committee recommended that all those portions of the Bill which referred to the inspection of engines or prime-movers, and to the examination of engineers, be struck out. The Bombay Government appeared entirely to have overlooked the important fact that the break-down of an engine, which is very rarely attended with fatal consequences, entailed serious and often ruinous loss upon its owner, and that it was therefore the owner's interest above all other things to keep his engines in good condition and repair, and to employ competent persons to take charge of them.

Paragraph 3 of Section 23, which provided that certificates of competency granted under Act V. of 1873, on the ground of efficient service, should only have effect for a period of one year from the date of the proposed Bill, appeared to your Committee to be simply ridiculous, and they recommended that it be unconditionally omitted.

Your Committee also recommended that boilers of which the prime-movers were of ten horse-power or under should be excluded from the operation of the Bill. To include such boilers in the proposed Bill would be to interfere unnecessarily with trade. The more you introduced these small boilers and engines, the more you reduced the necessity of manual labour. And it was of great importance to a country like India that machinery of this description should be brought into extensive use.

THE OPIUM BILL, 1876.

The attention of your Committee was directed to the "Opium Act, 1876," now before the Legislative Council of the Governor-General, in which it was proposed to empower the Government of India "to authorize any local Government to establish warehouses for opium legally imported into, or intended to be imported from, the territories subject to such local Government ;" and "to declare any place to be a warehouse for all or any opium legally imported, *whether before or after the payment of any duty leviable thereon* ;" and "to compel the owner of all such opium to deposit in such warehouse," under the penalties stated in para. (*d*) of Section 10—namely, imprisonment for a term of one year, or a fine of Rs. 1,000, or both, for each offence ; and, under para. (*g*) of Section 8, the local Government might be authorized to regulate the use and custody of opium warehoused under Section 7, the levy of fees for such warehousing, and the removal of such opium for sale or exportation."

They considered that these provisions contemplated the introduction of an utterly useless and unjustifiable interference with the opium trade, and would cause inconvenience and loss to all concerned in it ; that as the duty on Malwa opium was paid before the opium could be imported into Bombay, the establishment of Government warehouses was unnecessary for the protection of the revenue, and would not assist in the prevention of smuggling ; and that the export trade in opium had for many years been carried on at this Port in godowns built for the purpose and belonging to private individuals, to whom heavy loss would accrue if the establishment of Government warehouses for opium were enacted. A memorial was accordingly sent to the Government of India praying that the provisions in the Bill for the establishment of Government warehouses might be expunged, so far as Bombay is concerned.

His Excellency the Governor-General in Council in reply remarked, with reference to the assertion that the greatest possible "inconvenience" and "heavy loss" to the trade would be the result of the establishment of warehouses that, in the absence of any explanation by the Chamber, he did not understand how this alleged inconvenience and loss could arise, adding that, after a careful consideration of the memorial, His Excellency did not see sufficient grounds to justify a modification of the opinion he had already expressed on this subject. Whereupon, your Committee addressed another letter to the Government of India entering into the whole question in greater detail.

But, if His Excellency in Council still insisted on these provisions being retained in the Bill, they respectfully urged—

1. That it should be distinctly stated in the Act that the provisions relating to Government warehouses should be applicable only to opium in bond, that is to say, to opium on which duty had not been paid.

2. That all warehouses now and previously used and proved to be suitable for the opium trade should be entitled to be licensed.

3. That the "fees for warehousing," referred to in Clause (9) of Section 8, should not exceed the cost of warehousing the drug at present.

4. That the same facilities, which merchants have at present in private opium warehouses, should be afforded to them in such warehouses, as might be erected by Government without any extra cost for keeping such warehouses open over-time, or on Sundays ; and

5 That means should be adopted in order that the opium merchants might carry on their trade with the same secrecy in Government warehouses as they were now enabled to do in private warehouses.

The present system, while affording perfect security to the revenue, is satisfactory to the trade, and your Committee, with great reference, submitted that, in the absence of good and sufficient reasons, it should not be departed from in the manner now contemplated.

THE BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND THE CURRENCY.

At a general meeting of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce held on the 15th July last the following resolutions were passed :—

1 That the continued depreciation in the value of silver is a question most seriously affecting the political and financial interests of the country, and that, in view of its very great importance, the Committee be requested to address the Government, in order to obtain such information as they may be able to give in regard to the policy which they propose to pursue under the circumstances.

2. That the Chamber approves of the suggestion of the Committee that it is expedient in view of any ultimate measures that the Government may adopt, that Clause 19 of Act XXIII. of 1870, making it obligatory on the Mints in India to receive all silver tendered for coinage ; and also that Section B of Clause 11 of Act III. of 1871, making it obligatory on the Currency Department to issue notes against silver bullion sent in, be temporarily suspended at the discretion of Government. And that, during such suspension or until further notice, it be not lawful to import coined rupees from any foreign port.

There was a third proposition put before the meeting recommending the adoption of a gold standard which, in deference to the feeling apparent among members present, was for a time withdrawn.

A copy of the proceedings of that meeting was forwarded to this Chamber, with a request that we would co-operate with the Bengal Chamber in urging the adoption of the proposed measure on the attention of Government.

Your Committee found themselves unable to support the second resolution passed by the Bengal Chamber ; but feeling that it was a subject on which there would probably be much diversity of opinion, they circulated the papers for the opinions of the members of the Chamber. The members were all but unanimous in opposing the resolutions. The Bengal Chamber was accordingly informed that your Committee were precluded from supporting the resolutions ; and as the Government of India had already, before the papers were returned from circulation, given its decision, in an able and exhaustive Resolution, your Committee simply added that it was perhaps unnecessary to enter into particulars.

THE PORT TRUST.

The accounts for the year ending 31st March, 1876, show the expenditure of the Trust to have been Rs. 16,02,695-8-4 (which includes Rs. 8,62,928-8-3 for interest payable to Government), and the Income Rs. 15,65,639-15-4 leaving a deficit of Rs. 36,455-9-0.

The ascertained deficits on previous revenue accounts were as follows :—

From 29th June 1873, to 31st March, 1874...Rs. 1,64,881 7 3
From 1st April, 1874, to 31st March, 1875....., 91,080 13 6

The Chairman's Administration Report to 31st March, 1876, will be found in the appendices to this report.

REDUCTION OF POSTAL RATES.

The following is an extract from the Notification No. 1079, issued on the 16th June, 1876, by the Government of India :—

British India having been admitted to the General Postal Union, with effect from the 1st July, 1876, the Governor-General in council is pleased, in exercise of the powers conferred by the Indian Post Office Act, 1866, to direct that, on and after the 1st July 1876, the following postage-duties shall be chargeable on letters and other articles hereinafter specified, sent through the post from any place in British India to any of the countries mentioned in the schedule hereunto annexed :—

Postage-duties chargeable upon letters and other articles sent through the post from any part of British India to any country belonging to the General Postal Union.

	Each letter per ½ oz.	Printed Papers, Legal and Commercial Documents, and Patterns. Each newspaper, per 4 ozs.	Printed Papers, Legal and Commercial Documents, and Patterns. Each packet of printed papers, &c per 2 ozs.
	Annas.	Annas.	Annas.
Upon letters sent through the post from any place in British India—			
To the United Kingdom and countries belonging to the United Kingdom—			
via Brindisi	6	2	2½
via Southampton	5	1	1½
To Aden, Malta, and Gibraltar..	4	1	1½
To any country belonging to the Union not coming under the foregoing heads...	5	1	1½

2. The higher rates thus prescribed for correspondence sent *via* Brindisi to the United Kingdom and countries served through it result from the conveyance of such mails by special train through Italy and France : and the lower rates of letter postage for Aden, Malta, and Gibraltar, are those hitherto in force, which it is not the object of the present arrangement to increase.

ALTERATION OF THE CHAMBER'S RULES AND RATES OF COMMISSION.

A special general meeting of the Chamber was held on the 9th of August last for the purpose of revising the Chamber's Rules and Rates of Commission, which had, from various causes, been rendered necessary.

PROGRESS OF THE PRINCE'S DOCK

The following outline of the progress which has been made in this important work has been courteously supplied to the Chamber by Mr. Thomas Ormston, the Chief Engineer of the Bombay Port Trust :—

"The Contract of the Rates of Commission, which had, from various causes, been rendered necessary.

"Your Committee found themselves unable to support the second resolution passed by the Bengal Chamber ; but feeling that it was a subject on which there would probably be much diversity of opinion, they circulated the papers for the opinions of the members of the Chamber. The members were all but unanimous in opposing the resolutions. The Bengal Chamber was accordingly informed that your Committee were precluded from supporting the resolutions ; and as the Government of India had already, before the papers were returned from circulation, given its decision, in an able and exhaustive Resolution, your Committee simply added that it was perhaps unnecessary to enter into particulars.

THE PORT TRUST.

The accounts for the year ending 31st March, 1876, show the expenditure of the Trust to have been Rs. 16,02,695-8-4 (which includes Rs. 8,62,928-8-3 for interest payable to Government), and the Income Rs. 15,65,639-15-4 leaving a deficit of Rs. 36,455-9-0.

The ascertained deficits on previous revenue accounts were as follows :—

From 29th June 1873, to 31st March, 1874...Rs. 1,64,881 7 3
From 1st April, 1874, to 31st March, 1875....., 91,080 13 6

The Chairman's Administration Report to 31st March, 1876, will be found in the appendices to this report.

REDUCTION OF POSTAL RATES.

The following is an extract from the Notification No. 1079, issued on the 16th June, 1876, by the Government of India :—

British India having been admitted to the General Postal Union, with effect from the 1st July, 1876, the Governor-General in council is pleased, in exercise of the powers conferred by the Indian Post Office Act, 1866, to direct that, on and after the 1st July 1876, the following postage-duties shall be chargeable on letters and other articles hereinafter specified, sent through the post from any place in British India to any of the countries mentioned in the schedule hereunto annexed :—

Postage-duties chargeable upon letters and other articles sent through the post from any part of British India to any country belonging to the General Postal Union.

	Each letter per ½ oz.	Printed Papers, Legal and Commercial Documents, and Patterns. Each newspaper, per 4 ozs.	Printed Papers, Legal and Commercial Documents, and Patterns. Each packet of printed papers, &c per 2 ozs.
	Annas.	Annas.	Annas.
Upon letters sent through the post from any place in British India—			
To the United Kingdom and countries belonging to the United Kingdom—			
via Brindisi	6	2	2½
via Southampton	5	1	1½
To Aden, Malta, and Gibraltar..	4	1	1½
To any country belonging to the Union not coming under the foregoing heads...	5	1	1½

2. The higher rates thus prescribed for correspondence sent *via* Brindisi to the United Kingdom and countries served through it result from the conveyance of such mails by special train through Italy and France : and the lower rates of letter postage for Aden, Malta, and Gibraltar, are those hitherto in force, which it is not the object of the present arrangement to increase.

ALTERATION OF THE CHAMBER'S RULES AND RATES OF COMMISSION.

A special general meeting of the Chamber was held on the 9th of August last for the purpose of revising the Chamber's Rules and Rates of Commission, which had, from various causes, been rendered necessary.

PROGRESS OF THE PRINCE'S DOCK

The following outline of the progress which has been made in this important work has been courteously supplied to the Chamber by Mr. Thomas Ormston, the Chief Engineer of the Bombay Port Trust :—

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BANKS.

COMPTOIR D'ESCOMPTE DE PARIS

HEAD OFFICE:
PARIS.

SUBSCRIBED and PAID-UP CAPITAL £8,200,000
RESERVE FUND .....£ 800,000

LONDON BANKERS:
THE BANK OF ENGLAND,
THE UNION BANK OF LONDON,
AND
MESSRS. C. J. HAMBRO AND SON.

CURRENT DEPOSITS.

INTEREST is allowed at TWO PER CENT. per annum on the minimum monthly balances.
Terms for Deposits at 7 and 14 days' notice and at 3, 6, and 12 months certain may be obtained on application to the Bank.
All Remittances should be made payable to the Comptoir d'Escompte de Paris.

A. RENAUD, Manager.

14, Rampart Row, W.

ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER.

Capital Paid up—£1,600,000.
Reserve Funds—£500,000.

BOMBAY AGENCY.

DEPOSITS of not less than Rs. 500 are received for fixed periods bearing interest at rates which may be ascertained on application.
No interest is allowed on Current De